

Paul Koehler

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<p>1 Landis, L-a-n-d-i-s?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. Are you aware of any other instances of</p> <p>4 sexual harassment or abuse of students during your</p> <p>5 time at Pennridge High School between 2010 and the</p> <p>6 end of 2014 other than the Elizabeth Nace</p> <p>7 situation?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. And I'm not talking about somebody who</p> <p>10 was found guilty or pleaded guilty to a criminal</p> <p>11 charge. I'm talking about somebody who was</p> <p>12 suspected of or there were allegations or</p> <p>13 complaints made against them. Anything like that?</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. Did you go to any of the legal hearings</p> <p>16 involving Mr. Romig after he was arrested?</p> <p>17 A. No.</p> <p>18 Q. Did you ever talk to any members of his</p> <p>19 family: Wife, parents, anything like that?</p> <p>20 A. The only communication that went on</p> <p>21 between myself and his family was, I sent -- I got</p> <p>22 an email from his wife apologizing for what</p> <p>23 happened concerning the Sellersville Belles.</p> <p>24 And I simply replied to her "You need not</p>	<p>1 you definitely look to see if you missed</p> <p>2 something. I don't know that you would be human</p> <p>3 if you didn't.</p> <p>4 So, there were conversations between</p> <p>5 myself and my assistant coaches, and we saw</p> <p>6 nothing that we missed or thought of nothing that</p> <p>7 we could have missed.</p> <p>8 Q. Was your direct supervisor David Babb,</p> <p>9 the athletic director?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. If there was a suspicion of or reasonable</p> <p>12 cause to believe that there was some sexual abuse</p> <p>13 or harassment of one of your players by one of the</p> <p>14 coaches, did you have any understanding or idea of</p> <p>15 what the policy of Pennridge was as to how that</p> <p>16 was to be handled?</p> <p>17 By that I mean who it's to be reported</p> <p>18 to, who does the investigation, who does the</p> <p>19 resolution, anything like that at all?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. That was never explained to you by</p> <p>22 anybody at Pennridge.</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. How about after Mr. Romig was arrested?</p>
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<p>1 apologize. I have no idea what you're going</p> <p>2 through. If we can ever do anything for you,</p> <p>3 please let me know."</p> <p>4 Q. Did Mr. Romig ever make any attempt to</p> <p>5 contact you after his arrest?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. Up until the time of his present</p> <p>8 incarceration up by Nanticoke.</p> <p>9 A. No.</p> <p>10 Q. He's never tried to contact you from</p> <p>11 prison by letter or any other form of</p> <p>12 communication?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. After Mr. Romig's arrest, would it be</p> <p>15 fair to say that you looked back at your</p> <p>16 relationship with Mr. Romig over those two years</p> <p>17 where he was a coach, an assistant coach, under</p> <p>18 you to try to figure out if there were any</p> <p>19 signals, tip-offs or whatever that he was engaged</p> <p>20 in conduct that he shouldn't have been engaged in</p> <p>21 with a female player? Would that be fair to say?</p> <p>22 A. I think as a coach -- I've never gone</p> <p>23 through this before. When a person that you</p> <p>24 believe is doing a good job is found to not be,</p>	<p>1 Did anybody bother to explain that to you then?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 THE WITNESS: Can I get a cup of</p> <p>4 that water?</p> <p>5 MR. GROTH: Absolutely.</p> <p>6 (There was a discussion held off</p> <p>7 the record)</p> <p>8 MR. GROTH: We're back on the</p> <p>9 record.</p> <p>10 BY MR. GROTH:</p> <p>11 Q. Are there yearly PIAA meetings that</p> <p>12 athletic directors have to attend, to your</p> <p>13 knowledge?</p> <p>14 A. I can't comment on that.</p> <p>15 Q. You don't know one way or the other?</p> <p>16 A. My assumption would be yes, but...</p> <p>17 Q. You were never invited by Mr. Babb to go</p> <p>18 to any of those?</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. If Mr. Romig testified under oath in his</p> <p>21 deposition that he was never given any information</p> <p>22 in terms of written policies or practices or</p> <p>23 procedures at Pennridge with regard to sexual</p> <p>24 harassment or unlawful abuse of students or</p>

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Appendix 0801

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<p>1 harassment of students, would you have any reason 2 to not believe that? 3 MS. SOMMER: Objection to the 4 form, but you can answer. 5 A. No, because. 6 Q. Because you weren't given any, either, 7 correct? 8 A. Correct. 9 MS. SOMMER: Are you almost done, 10 Dave? 11 MR. GROTH: Yes. 12 MS. SOMMER: Because I need a 13 break. 14 MR. GROTH: Just checking my notes 15 here for a second. 16 BY MR. GROTH: 17 Q. Do you know an individual named Chris 18 Seider? 19 A. No. 20 Q. A phys-ed and health-ed teacher and coach 21 at Pennridge? 22 A. No. 23 MR. GROTH: No further questions. 24 Thank you.</p>	<p>1 happened. 2 Q. Did you operate prior to incorporating? 3 A. I'm horrible with dates. I would believe 4 so, yes. 5 Q. And did you do the incorporation or did 6 an attorney do the incorporation? 7 A. I believe it was done by one of our 8 assistant coaches who took it to Grimm & Grimm and 9 all those Grimms that are in Perkasio, and that's 10 who did it. 11 Q. And the address that's listed, at least 12 from the corporation bureau, is 112 Green Street 13 in Sellersville, and that's your home address? 14 A. Yes, sir, it is. 15 Q. Do you have any officers to the 16 corporation? 17 A. No. 18 Q. It's just you? 19 A. It's just me. 20 Q. How about board members? Are there any -- 21 A. It's just me. 22 Q. And I think you answered this -- and 23 that's why it's hard sometimes going second. 24 Sometimes you have questions that may be prepared</p>
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<p>1 MR. RUSSELL: If we want to take a 2 break, we can take a break. I have a number 3 of questions. 4 MS. SOMMER: That's fine. 5 (A brief recess was taken) 6 MR. RUSSELL: We're back on the 7 record. 8 (EXAMINATION) 9 BY MR. RUSSELL: 10 Q. Mr. Koehler, my name is John Russell, and 11 I represent the Faith Christian defendants. I 12 have a few questions for that you I want to go 13 through. 14 I'm going to ask you a little bit about 15 the Belles. You incorporated the Belles. They're 16 a non-profit, right? 17 A. Yes -- we're not actually a nonprofit. 18 We've done all that wonderful paperwork to approve 19 that. 20 Q. But you are incorporated as Sellersville 21 Belles Fast-Pitch, Inc.? 22 A. Yes, sir. 23 Q. And it was created in 1998? 24 A. I think that's when the incorporation</p>	<p>1 and I have to fill it in a little bit, but you 2 hired Eric Romig -- when did you hire him for the 3 Belles? 4 A. Well, let me explain to you how that came 5 about, because it's not a simple yes-or-no answer 6 or date. 7 Eric Romig was the JV coach at Pennridge 8 and had watched some of our JV players playing on 9 their typical summer ball teams, and he contacted 10 me after the school year that summer that he ended 11 up being arrested. 12 He asked me if the Sellersville Belles 13 would entertain having two 18-and-under softball 14 teams. I said we had done it once before. I was 15 not really in favor of it, but it required three 16 things: A, we would have to have coaching; B, we 17 would have to have pitching; and C, we would have 18 to have enough players of quality to justify 19 having a team. 20 So, he then informed me that he had 21 talked to Tyler Penhallow and LeeAnn Kramer, who 22 were my varsity assistants from high school, and 23 they had consented to be his assistant coaches if, 24 in fact, we could field a team.</p>

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<p>1 Q. So, they were his assistant coaches, 2 Tyler and. . . 3 A. LeeAnn Kramer. 4 Q. They weren't your assistant coaches. 5 A. They were my assistant coaches on the 6 high school team. 7 Q. Okay. 8 A. LeeAnn Kramer had helped me on the Belles 9 in previous summers. But this year, if the 10 showcase team were to come about, she would 11 consent to help him and Tyler with this second 12 team. 13 Q. And my questions are all going to deal 14 with the Belles, and I think it's somewhat 15 difficult to keep that separate, but I want to try 16 to just focus on that. 17 There was a gold team and a showcase 18 team. You coached the gold team? 19 A. Correct. 20 Q. And the gold team was the higher level? 21 A. Correct. 22 Q. And the showcase team was going to be 23 coached -- the lead coach or the head coach of 24 that team, would that be Eric Romig?</p>	<p>1 coached for two years at the JV level, and 2 everything I had seen him do was done well. 3 Q. When we think of the Belles, in some way 4 the Belles are you, right? I mean, you make the 5 decisions concerning what to do or what not to do. 6 A. Correct. 7 Q. So, there was no formal hiring process. 8 A. No. 9 Q. For the Belles. 10 A. No. 11 Q. Did you obtain a criminal history on him 12 from the state police? 13 A. No, we didn't, because that was the -- 14 our assumption was, of course, that was all done 15 by the district. 16 We knew all those background checks had 17 been done by Pennridge School District, so he and 18 all of our coaches were either teachers -- they 19 had all had background checks done. 20 Q. Did you have him sign any affidavit or 21 anything like that? 22 A. No. 23 Q. Did you try to obtain a child-abuse 24 clearance from the Department of Human Services,</p>
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<p>1 A. That was going to be Eric Romig. 2 Q. And his assistant coaches would be LeeAnn 3 Kramer and Tyler Penhallow? 4 A. Correct. 5 Q. LeeAnn and Tyler, they would be at all 6 the games and practices as well? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. And I think you indicated that he, being 9 Eric Romig, was brought on for the tryouts, which 10 started the second week of August? 11 A. Correct. 12 Q. And you had eight days of tryouts. 13 A. Correct. 14 Q. And would Tyler and LeeAnn be part of 15 that as well? 16 A. Yes, they would. 17 Q. Do you have a formal application process? 18 A. No, we don't have a formal application 19 process. 20 Q. It's just kind of if you know them and it 21 works out? 22 A. Correct. I mean, we knew Tyler and we 23 knew LeeAnn because of their relationship, and we 24 knew Eric and his relationship because he had</p>	<p>1 which was then known as the Department of Public 2 Welfare, prior to hiring him on the Belles? 3 A. No. 4 Q. Did you check any references on him prior 5 to bringing him on the Belles? 6 A. No. 7 Q. Was he paid? 8 A. No. 9 Q. So, it was purely a voluntary position. 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. On the Belles. 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Now, the players have to pay, correct? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. And what do those funds go toward? 16 A. They go toward the expense that are 17 incurred: Uniforms, tournament fees, umpires, 18 hotels, meals, balls, equipment, whatever we 19 happen to spend. 20 Q. And with regard to the Belles, did the 21 Belles ever have at any time any written policy 22 on, say, sexual harassment or sexual abuse or 23 anything like that? 24 A. No.</p>

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<p>1 Q. Was there any oral policy that you</p> <p>2 communicated to the coaches about that?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. And when was that communicated to the</p> <p>5 coaches of the Belles?</p> <p>6 A. Every year before we started our tryouts</p> <p>7 and before we started our season. It was then</p> <p>8 also reiterated -- every year we would have a</p> <p>9 meeting with all the parents and players, and at</p> <p>10 that point in time we would also tell the parents,</p> <p>11 "Please, if you're picking up your daughter, make</p> <p>12 sure you're there at 8:30, when we're done at</p> <p>13 8:30, because we will not leave your daughter</p> <p>14 alone -- I don't care if you're five minutes</p> <p>15 away -- and we will not have one coach stay. We</p> <p>16 will not bring your daughter home. There will be</p> <p>17 two coaches. So, if you're late, two of us need to</p> <p>18 wait."</p> <p>19 Q. So, is that kind of the gist of your</p> <p>20 policy, though, just telling them "At no time will</p> <p>21 we have a child alone with a coach"?</p> <p>22 A. Correct.</p> <p>23 Q. Was there any policy on texting that you</p> <p>24 communicated at the Belles level?</p>	<p>1 Q. And why not?</p> <p>2 A. It was an assumption that we didn't</p> <p>3 really need to. I mean, every one of us -- we</p> <p>4 knew each other very well. We knew our girls very</p> <p>5 well. We knew the environment in which we</p> <p>6 coached.</p> <p>7 If the Sellersville Belles are guilty are</p> <p>8 something, it's that we don't have written</p> <p>9 policies on that.</p> <p>10 Q. Did you ever have anyone come in to the</p> <p>11 Belles and provide training to coaches?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. Did you ever have anyone come in to the</p> <p>14 Belles and provide training to the team members</p> <p>15 about what would be, you know, good touch or bad</p> <p>16 touch?</p> <p>17 A. No.</p> <p>18 Q. Did anyone ever come in and provide</p> <p>19 training, either to the coaches or the players, as</p> <p>20 to what is appropriate with regard to behavior?</p> <p>21 A. No.</p> <p>22 Q. Did you ever have any discussions with</p> <p>23 the players of the Belles about what they should</p> <p>24 do if they felt that another player was being</p>
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<p>1 A. No.</p> <p>2 Q. Was there any policy on sexting? Do you</p> <p>3 know what I mean by that?</p> <p>4 A. Oh, yes.</p> <p>5 Q. Any policy on that that was communicated?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. But there was -- this was my question, I</p> <p>8 guess, that correlates with that: You did have a</p> <p>9 policy about you couldn't drive a player alone --</p> <p>10 a coach not drive a player alone.</p> <p>11 A. Correct.</p> <p>12 Q. And you talked about, kind of with regard</p> <p>13 to trying to coach someone, that you may have to</p> <p>14 position them in some way.</p> <p>15 Did you ever have a conversation with any</p> <p>16 of your coaches at any time -- and then we'll</p> <p>17 clarify when if you did -- concerning what would</p> <p>18 be considered appropriate touching or</p> <p>19 inappropriate touching?</p> <p>20 MR. GROTH: Excuse me: You're</p> <p>21 talking about just the Belles or...</p> <p>22 MR. RUSSELL: Just the Belles.</p> <p>23 THE WITNESS: No.</p> <p>24 BY MR. RUSSELL:</p>	<p>1 inappropriate with them or a coach was being</p> <p>2 inappropriate with them?</p> <p>3 A. No.</p> <p>4 Q. How is Eric Romig as a coach? I think you</p> <p>5 testified to this, but...</p> <p>6 A. He was excellent. He was very good.</p> <p>7 Q. Did you ever see anything, based upon</p> <p>8 your education, training and experience, that</p> <p>9 would cause you to believe that anything</p> <p>10 inappropriate was going on between him and</p> <p>11 Elizabeth Nace?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. Anything between him and any other player</p> <p>14 on the Belles?</p> <p>15 A. No.</p> <p>16 Q. How did you learn that Eric was accused</p> <p>17 of inappropriate conduct between himself and</p> <p>18 Elizabeth Nace?</p> <p>19 A. It was a Tuesday afternoon. My cell</p> <p>20 phone rang. At the end of the phone was David Babb</p> <p>21 and he said, "Paul, we have a problem."</p> <p>22 I said, "What is that?" And he said, "Eric Romig</p> <p>23 has just been arrested." And I said, "For what?"</p> <p>24 And he said, "For having sexual" whatever-he-said</p>

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<p>1 "with a sophomore player of the JV team last year. 2 He's been arrested." And you could have knocked 3 me over with a feather. 4 Q. You were shocked. 5 A. Shocked. 6 Q. Did you try to find out if that player 7 was also involved on your Belles team? 8 A. Yes, we did, because -- yes, I did. 9 Q. And how did you do that? 10 A. Well, I didn't ask anybody, but I knew 11 that night -- we had practice Tuesday night and 12 both teams would be practicing, and Eric Romig was 13 not going to be at practice. 14 So, I called Tyler and I called LeeAnn, 15 and I said "We're going to have to discuss this 16 with the team." First, I said, "Well, we'll just 17 say he's not here so we can wrap our hands around 18 this thing and figure out what's going on." 19 Shortly thereafter I got a phone call 20 from David Babb, saying, "You need to know that if 21 you're being contacted by anybody, you need to 22 talk to -- the school district will be in 23 contact." 24 And right after that the phone rang and</p>	<p>1 end of our summer season taking charge of that 2 team completely. 3 But the fall season and obviously the 4 winter months of getting through it and assuring 5 parents that their daughters would be getting the 6 attention that they needed and the coaching that 7 they needed and the exposure in tournaments that 8 they needed, it was difficult, to say the least. 9 Q. While you said you didn't know for sure 10 that the player that was involved was also on the 11 Belles, you knew that that was a possibility? 12 A. Knew it was a possibility, yes. 13 Q. Now, you had indicated that Pennridge had 14 provided a guidance counselor to come and talk to 15 the players at Pennridge. 16 Did you seek to have a guidance counselor 17 or somebody come and talk to your players, knowing 18 that they might be in a similar situation? 19 A. No. 20 Q. Was there any concern that any of the 21 other Belles players had also been involved with 22 Eric Romig? 23 A. No. 24 Q. Did you communicate to the parents at</p>
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<p>1 it was a reporter from Channel 10 Action News, or 2 it was one of the -- they wanted to come to my 3 practice to photograph players and interview 4 players and parents. 5 So, we talked to our players and our 6 parents that night about what had happened. 7 Q. What did you tell them? 8 A. We just said that he's been arrested for 9 having inappropriate sexual contact with a player 10 on our JV team. 11 Q. But you didn't tell them that it was also 12 a player on the Belles team? 13 A. Oh, no, because I didn't know that for a 14 fact. I did not know that at all. So, their 15 biggest concern, obviously, was they have their 16 daughters now involved on the team where the head 17 coach of that team has now been arrested. Now, who 18 is going to take charge of what goes on. 19 So, that's where we tried to work through 20 a year of battling and working with two teams 21 instead of one team. 22 Q. Did Tyler and LeeAnn take over the team 23 then? 24 A. Tyler and LeeAnn -- Tyler ended up by the</p>	<p>1 all, "Look, if you guys have any information about 2 anything with Eric Romig and your daughter, I want 3 to know about it?" 4 A. That night, when we talked about him 5 being arrested, one of the things I did say to 6 them, I said, "If you know anything, because I 7 know nothing, if you know something, please let me 8 know what that is so we can go forward from here." 9 Q. And I think you indicated that the Naces 10 never came to you. 11 A. Never. 12 Q. Did they ever ask for any accommodation 13 for their daughter at all while she was playing? 14 A. No, none. 15 Q. She not only finished that season with 16 the Belles; did she play the next year with the 17 Belles? 18 A. No. 19 Q. She only played the one year? 20 A. Correct. 21 Q. And you had testified you never discussed 22 this with Elizabeth. 23 A. Never. 24 Q. You indicated the police never contacted</p>

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<p>1 you. Did you contact the police?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. Do you have any knowledge that they were</p> <p>4 aware that Eric was coaching for you at the time</p> <p>5 that he was arrested?</p> <p>6 A. (No response)</p> <p>7 Q. With the Belles.</p> <p>8 A. I had no knowledge of that.</p> <p>9 Q. Did you ever file a report with Children</p> <p>10 & Youth once you learned that your coach of the</p> <p>11 Belles had been arrested?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. And why not?</p> <p>14 A. Because my understanding of what had</p> <p>15 occurred is, this happened during the summer,</p> <p>16 before he was actually coaching our team.</p> <p>17 Q. The one thing that's come out when we</p> <p>18 took Elizabeth Nace's deposition, she said while</p> <p>19 she was being coached at the Belles, she at least</p> <p>20 had two sexual-intercourse encounters with Eric</p> <p>21 Romig during that time period.</p> <p>22 The times that occurred before that had</p> <p>23 started apparently in June or July, which we're</p> <p>24 trying to sort through, but it seems like you</p>	<p>1 occurred in July, and then that was followed by</p> <p>2 sexual intercourse or sexual touching, and at</p> <p>3 least two, possibly three, of those encounters</p> <p>4 occurred during the Belles season.</p> <p>5 Is this the first time you're hearing</p> <p>6 that?</p> <p>7 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form</p> <p>8 of the question. That is a</p> <p>9 mischaracterization of Ms. Nace's testimony.</p> <p>10 You can answer.</p> <p>11 THE WITNESS: Yes.</p> <p>12 BY MR. RUSSELL:</p> <p>13 Q. But the police never came and talked to</p> <p>14 you.</p> <p>15 A. Never.</p> <p>16 Q. Did you ever receive a letter from</p> <p>17 Elizabeth Nace's attorneys regarding this matter?</p> <p>18 A. No.</p> <p>19 Q. Did you ever speak to them on the phone?</p> <p>20 A. Her attorneys or --</p> <p>21 Q. Yes, her attorneys.</p> <p>22 A. No.</p> <p>23 Q. Or her parents' attorneys.</p> <p>24 A. No.</p>
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<p>1 testified that the season was over before the</p> <p>2 first week of June, right?</p> <p>3 A. Right.</p> <p>4 Q. So, that means his contract would have</p> <p>5 been over by the end of May, correct?</p> <p>6 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form</p> <p>7 of the question.</p> <p>8 A. You would have to talk to the district</p> <p>9 about when contracts end and when they don't.</p> <p>10 Q. Well, the human resource person was here</p> <p>11 and said the contract ends at your last game. You</p> <p>12 know, if you continue into the playoffs, it</p> <p>13 continues, but basically for the season it ends</p> <p>14 the last game.</p> <p>15 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form.</p> <p>16 Q. Would that be consistent with your</p> <p>17 understanding?</p> <p>18 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form</p> <p>19 of the question.</p> <p>20 Q. You can go ahead and answer.</p> <p>21 A. Sure.</p> <p>22 Q. So, when Elizabeth Nace testified, she</p> <p>23 said that there started to be some inappropriate</p> <p>24 texting that occurred in June, some sexting</p>	<p>1 Q. And you did say that you had a meeting</p> <p>2 with your players and the players' parents.</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. And how did you put off the news coming</p> <p>5 to the field? How were you able to handle that?</p> <p>6 A. They came.</p> <p>7 Q. And nobody talked to them?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. No, that no one talked to them; or...</p> <p>10 A. I don't believe anyone talked to them. I</p> <p>11 was on the 11:00 news that night, my picture from</p> <p>12 afar.</p> <p>13 Q. Did you ever formally terminate Mr. Romig</p> <p>14 from his coaching position with the Belles?</p> <p>15 A. I informed everybody that night that Eric</p> <p>16 Romig no longer will be coaching with the</p> <p>17 Sellersville Belles, nor will he ever coach with</p> <p>18 the Sellersville Belles again.</p> <p>19 Q. And I understand that you informed the</p> <p>20 parents that, but did you ever inform Mr. Romig of</p> <p>21 that?</p> <p>22 A. I've had no communication with him.</p> <p>23 Q. So, that would be no?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p>

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<p>1 Q. And you indicated that Elizabeth 2 continued to play the whole season with the 3 Belles. 4 A. Correct. 5 Q. Do you know why she didn't come back the 6 next year, her senior year, and play with the 7 Belles? 8 A. We folded that team. 9 Q. Just so I understand: The showcase team. 10 A. The showcase team disappeared. We 11 dissolved that team. 12 Q. Did she try out for the gold team? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Do you know why she didn't try out for 15 the gold team? 16 A. No. 17 Q. Now, there was a tournament -- Mrs. Nace 18 testified that there was a tournament in October 19 of 2013. It was an overnight tournament 20 somewhere. Do you know where that was? 21 A. Delaware. 22 Q. Did she go on that overnight tournament? 23 A. I can't recall. 24 Q. But she did continue the season.</p>	<p>1 whatsoever? 2 A. No. 3 Q. Did you ever notice any ongoing severe 4 physical injury that she was dealing with? 5 A. No. 6 Q. Did you ever notice her being more 7 fatigued in her junior and senior year when she 8 played for you? 9 A. No. 10 Q. Did you notice her becoming more 11 lethargic, meaning slower? 12 A. No. 13 Q. Did you ever notice that she was having 14 an increased dermatological condition with 15 anything about her face? 16 A. No. 17 Q. Did she ever indicate to you that she was 18 tired more during your junior and senior year? 19 A. No. 20 Q. Did she ever say to you that she was 21 going through severe and ongoing emotional 22 distress? 23 A. No. 24 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form.</p>
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<p>1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Did you notice any problems with 3 Elizabeth -- and this is going to be either while 4 she played for the Belles during that season or 5 with Pennridge at the varsity level in the spring 6 of -- it would be 2014 and 2015, correct? 7 A. Correct. 8 Q. (Continuing) -- did you ever notice any 9 problems that she was having as she played 10 softball with you? 11 A. None at all. 12 Q. And I think you gave a lot of 13 characterizations of who she was as an individual, 14 and you said she ended being the second-team 15 all-league as a pitcher her senior year, correct? 16 A. Correct, or it may have been third, so 17 don't hold me to first or second. 18 Q. But did her play improve each year that 19 she played for you? 20 A. She was a stronger player her senior year 21 than she was her junior year. That's just, I 22 think, a physical maturity and her working her 23 craft of pitching more. 24 Q. Did she ever ask for any accommodations</p>	<p>1 Q. Did she look to you, as a coach looking 2 at her players, like she was depressed? 3 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form. 4 Q. You can answer. 5 A. No. 6 Q. Did she ever look like she was anxious? 7 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form. 8 A. No. 9 Q. Did she ever look like she was fearful? 10 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form. 11 A. No. 12 Q. Did she ever appear to you that she was 13 experiencing a loss of self-worth and self-esteem? 14 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form. 15 A. No. 16 Q. Did she ever appear to you that she was 17 embarrassed? 18 A. No. 19 MR. GROTH: Objection to the form. 20 A. No. 21 Q. When we deposed the Naces, I was trying 22 to figure it out in my mind, because the one thing 23 I didn't understand is why the Sellersville Belles 24 weren't sued as part of this litigation.</p>

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Page 109	Page 111
<p>1 Faith Christian was sued, and there was</p> <p>2 no sexual intercourse that occurred with anyone</p> <p>3 that we're aware of between Mr. Romig at Faith</p> <p>4 Christian.</p> <p>5 And Ms. Nace has testified that she did</p> <p>6 have sexual relations with Mr. Romig while he was</p> <p>7 coaching for the Belles, and I felt, well, perhaps</p> <p>8 the Naces knew you in some way. But you don't have</p> <p>9 a good relationship with the Naces in some way?</p> <p>10 A. No more than I do with any other parent</p> <p>11 of a softball player that played for me. There is</p> <p>12 none.</p> <p>13 Q. Mr. Nace has testified. He stated that</p> <p>14 you are not a good coach and not a good man. Do</p> <p>15 you know of any reason why he would say that?</p> <p>16 A. No.</p> <p>17 Q. Do you know of anything that would give</p> <p>18 him that impression, to make that statement?</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. How would you describe your relationship</p> <p>21 with Jim Nace while he was the --</p> <p>22 A. There is none.</p> <p>23 Q. How about when he was a parent of your</p> <p>24 players?</p>	<p>1 a claim dealing with the incident with Mr. Romig.</p> <p>2 Does this document at all refresh your</p> <p>3 recollection as to whether or not you received a</p> <p>4 letter from the Hornstine law office?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. So, it's your recollection that you never</p> <p>7 received such a letter?</p> <p>8 A. Never seen this before.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you know Louis Hornstine is?</p> <p>10 A. No.</p> <p>11 Q. Do you know Brian Pelloni?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. Do you know Blair Hornstine?</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. And today is the first time that you've</p> <p>16 ever met David Groth?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. Have you ever been recommend by anybody</p> <p>19 at their firm?</p> <p>20 A. These people?</p> <p>21 Q. Yes.</p> <p>22 A. No.</p> <p>23 Q. I think you've testified to this before:</p> <p>24 You knew Eric Romig for approximately how many</p>
Page 110	Page 112
<p>1 A. He was not there. I had none.</p> <p>2 Q. And you talked a little bit about April</p> <p>3 Nace. She also testified that she had kept the</p> <p>4 book, like you said, but she didn't say that she</p> <p>5 was asked to stop keeping the book because you had</p> <p>6 complaints about parents being in the dugout.</p> <p>7 Did you communicate to her why she was</p> <p>8 asked to stop keeping the scorebook?</p> <p>9 A. No; didn't really matter. I didn't need</p> <p>10 to create any friction between parents. I said I'm</p> <p>11 going to have my players do the book.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. I'm going to show you a letter</p> <p>13 that we'll mark as Koehler-1.</p> <p>14 (Exhibit No. Was marked for</p> <p>15 identification)</p> <p>16 BY MR. RUSSELL:</p> <p>17 Q. Mr. Koehler, this is a letter that was</p> <p>18 sent initially to a variety of people, some of</p> <p>19 whom are my clients. It was sent to the Quakertown</p> <p>20 Community School District, Pennridge School</p> <p>21 District, Faith Christian Academy, Mr. Romig, as</p> <p>22 well as an attorney at Rubin, Glickman, Steinberg</p> <p>23 & Gifford, notifying them that Mr. Hornstine and</p> <p>24 his firm had been retained by the Naces to pursue</p>	<p>1 years before this incident came to light?</p> <p>2 A. Two seasons of softball, two years.</p> <p>3 Q. And that would be at Pennridge and then</p> <p>4 the beginning of the season for the Belles.</p> <p>5 A. Correct.</p> <p>6 Q. And at no time did you ever suspect that</p> <p>7 he was having an improper sexual relationship with</p> <p>8 any of your players.</p> <p>9 A. None.</p> <p>10 Q. You trusted him?</p> <p>11 A. Trusted him.</p> <p>12 Q. You had no reason not to?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. You thought he was a good guy.</p> <p>15 A. Thought he was a good guy.</p> <p>16 Q. Do you believe that there is anything</p> <p>17 that you could have done differently to avoid</p> <p>18 having Mr. Romig have a sexual relationship with</p> <p>19 one of your players while he was coaching on the</p> <p>20 Belles?</p> <p>21 MS. SOMMER: Object to the form.</p> <p>22 of the question. You can answer.</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. I want to go through a couple of other</p>

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<p>1 things here. You have on your Belles website</p> <p>2 something called 18-and-under Sellersville Belles,</p> <p>3 Belles in College. It's like a page?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. It has players that you've coached that</p> <p>6 are going to college...Is it just players on this</p> <p>7 listing that you have that are playing softball in</p> <p>8 college?</p> <p>9 A. Correct. They have gone on to play</p> <p>10 softball in college.</p> <p>11 Q. I did not see Elizabeth Nace on this. Is</p> <p>12 it your understanding that she's gone on to</p> <p>13 college but she's not playing softball?</p> <p>14 A. She left the team -- I don't make it a</p> <p>15 practice to claim players who have left the Belles</p> <p>16 before their travel-ball career is done as players</p> <p>17 in college.</p> <p>18 Q. And then also, are you familiar that</p> <p>19 players can fill out like a CaptainU College</p> <p>20 Sports Recruiting Player Profile?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. And on that Elizabeth Nace has a player</p> <p>23 profile, and she lists the Sellersville Belles as</p> <p>24 a club that she played for, but the coach is not</p>	<p>1 questions I have. Thank you.</p> <p>2 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.</p> <p>3 (EXAMINATION)</p> <p>4 BY MS. SOMMER:</p> <p>5 Q. Were the Naces present for this meeting</p> <p>6 that you had with the players and the parents the</p> <p>7 night that you learned about Eric Romig's arrest?</p> <p>8 A. I can't say for certain.</p> <p>9 MS. SOMMER: Nothing further.</p> <p>10 MS. CONNOR: No questions.</p> <p>11 MR. GROTH: I just have one</p> <p>12 question.</p> <p>13 (EXAMINATION)</p> <p>14 BY MR. GROTH:</p> <p>15 Q. You were under a year-to-year contract</p> <p>16 with Pennridge, also. Is that correct?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. When your contract was up at the end of a</p> <p>19 year, did you have to get another criminal check</p> <p>20 and all the background checks and whatever that</p> <p>21 they had done for your prior contract?</p> <p>22 A. No.</p> <p>23 Q. You only got one criminal background</p> <p>24 check the first year you were hired?</p>
Page 114	Page 116
<p>1 listed and there is no coach recommendation on</p> <p>2 that.</p> <p>3 Were you ever asked to write -- it's</p> <p>4 called a coach endorsement: Were you ever asked</p> <p>5 to write a coach endorsement?</p> <p>6 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>7 Q. Is there any reason why you would not</p> <p>8 have endorsed Elizabeth Nace?</p> <p>9 A. No.</p> <p>10 Q. She was endorsed here by Tony Helbling --</p> <p>11 A. Helbling.</p> <p>12 Q. Helbling? Do you know him?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. Coach at Deep Run?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. And she also had a coach endorsement from</p> <p>17 Ken Shanks of the Harleysville Thunderbirds?</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Do you know him?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. So, there is not like a rift or anything</p> <p>22 between you and Elizabeth Nace in some way?</p> <p>23 A. No, not at all.</p> <p>24 MR. RUSSELL: That's all the</p>	<p>1 A. Correct.</p> <p>2 MR. GROTH: No further questions.</p> <p>3 Thank you.</p> <p>4 MR. SALAZAR: I have no questions.</p> <p>5 MR. GROTH: Thank you very much.</p> <p>6 (The deposition was concluded at</p> <p>7 4:00 p.m.)</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p>

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Appendix 0809

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 117</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>I hereby certify that the testimony and the proceedings in the foregoing matter are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me and that the copy is a true and correct transcript of the same.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____ Lance A. Brusilow Registered Professional Reporter Certified Realtime Reporter</p> <p>The foregoing certification does not apply to any reproduction of the same by any means unless under the direct control and/or supervision of the certifying shorthand reporter.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	

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Appendix 0810

COPY TRANSCRIPT

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
CIVIL TRIAL DIVISION

JAMES NACE, et al

CIVIL ACTION

vs.

PENNRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT,
et al.

NO. 15-333

Wednesday, September 2, 2015

Oral deposition of CHERYL A. ALDERFER, held
at the law offices of DRAKE, HILEMAN & DAVIS, 252 W.
Swamp Road, #15, Doylestown, Pennsylvania,
beginning at 11:30 a.m., on the above date, before
LANCE A. BRUSLOW, Registered Professional
Reporter, Approved Reporter for the United States
District Court, and Notary Public, there being
present.

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ORAL DEPOSITION OF CHERYL A. ALDERFER, 9/2/2015

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23

24

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ORAL DEPOSITION OF CHERYL A. ALDERFER, 9/2/2015

1 EXAMINATION INDEX

2 WITNESS: CHERYL A. ALDERFER

3 BY Mr. Groth: (pages-6 & 92)

4 BY Mr. Santarone: (page-89)

5

6 EXHIBIT INDEX

7 NO. 1 Letter dated April 10, 2015,

8 from D. Groth to C. Alderfer (page-84)

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ORAL DEPOSITION OF CHERYL A. ALDERFER, 9/2/2015

Page 6	Page 8
<p>1 (It is hereby agreed by and 2 among counsel that signing, sealing, 3 certification and filing are waived; and 4 that all objections, except as to the 5 form of the question, are reserved until 6 the time of trial) 7 CHERYL A. ALDERFER, having been 8 first duly sworn, was examined and 9 testified as follows: 10 (EXAMINATION) 11 BY MR. GROTH: 12 Q. Good morning. 13 A. Good morning. 14 Q. Will you state your full name 15 for the record, please? 16 A. Cheryl Ann Alderfer. 17 Q. Ms. or Mrs. Alderfer? 18 A. Mrs. 19 Q. Mrs. Alderfer, my name is David 20 Groth, and I represent Elizabeth Nace in 21 a lawsuit that's pending in the Federal 22 District Court for the Eastern District of 23 Pennsylvania in which Faith Christian 24 Academy, Ryan Clymer, Russell Hollenbach,</p>	<p>1 maybe even further back than that. 2 If you don't understand a 3 question I ask you, please ask me to 4 rephrase or clarify or restate the 5 question for you so that you do 6 understand it before you start giving an 7 answer, and I'll be happy to do that. 8 Let me complete the question 9 before you begin the answer. The court 10 reporter, who is making a transcript of 11 everything that's said here, can only take 12 down one of us speaking at a time. If 13 we're speaking over each other, it's hard 14 for him to make a transcript of 15 everything that's said. 16 And again, you want to let me 17 finish the question before you give an 18 answer so that you know exactly what it 19 is I'm asking you. You may think at 20 some point in the middle of the question 21 you know what I'm going for and want to 22 jump in with an answer, but let's not try 23 to speak over each other. 24 You have to give a verbal</p>
Page 7	Page 9
<p>1 as well as Pennridge School District and 2 Thomas Creedon and David Babb, are 3 defendants. 4 I'm going to ask you questions 5 today about things that I think are 6 important and relevant to this litigation, 7 but let me ask you first: Have you ever 8 been in a deposition before? Have you 9 ever given a deposition? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Let me just go through a 12 couple of quick instructions regarding 13 what's going to take place so that we can 14 do this with as much efficiency as 15 possible. 16 First of all, please listen to 17 the question that I ask you and make sure 18 that you understand the question before 19 you give an answer. 20 If you give me an answer to a 21 question, I'll assume that you understood 22 the question and that you're giving me 23 your best representation of facts and 24 events that go back to 2009 or so and</p>	<p>1 response to all questions: A yes, a no, 2 or some narrative explanation. You can't 3 shake your head yes, shake your head no, 4 give a hand gesture, because the court 5 reporter can't get that down onto a 6 transcript. 7 Also, if you can avoid uh-huh 8 and un-huh, which are hard to spell and 9 are subject to different interpretations, 10 that would help, also. 11 You're required to answer every 12 question I ask you fully and to the best 13 of your ability, unless your attorney 14 objects to the question and instructs you 15 not to answer the question. 16 There may be objections to 17 questions that I ask you or the objection 18 is stated for the record, but you're 19 going to be asked to answer the question, 20 anyway. 21 However, there may also be 22 times when you're instructed not to answer 23 a question. So, if that comes up, 24 ninety-nine times out of a hundred you'll</p>

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<p>1 be answering the question even though one 2 the attorneys objects to it or I object 3 to one their questions to you, if they 4 have any. 5 I'll be asking for facts and 6 information that you know personally or 7 may have heard or obtained or learned 8 from others about the issues or topics. 9 I'm going to discuss with you. And by that 10 I mean that you may have personal 11 knowledge of facts in response to a 12 question I ask or you may have been given 13 information from other people. 14 Hearsay is a common term; 15 people have some idea of what it means. 16 It's something somebody else told you that 17 doesn't have any relevance to this 18 deposition. It may in court, when you 19 testify in court, but it doesn't here, so 20 you are free to and obligated to tell me 21 things that you've heard from other people 22 as well as things you know for yourself. 23 If you don't know the answer 24 to a question, please tell me that. If</p>	<p>1 questions? 2 A. No, I'm fine. 3 Q. Are you taking any type of 4 medication that would affect your memory 5 or anything of that nature? 6 A. No. 7 Q. If you need a break for any 8 reason -- stretch your legs, want to talk 9 to your attorney, use the restroom, 10 whatever -- just let us know. We'll be 11 happy to accommodate you, okay? 12 A. Okay. 13 Q. Can you tell me what your 14 residence address is, please?? 15 A. 1015 Cedar Meadow Lane, Green 16 Lane. Zip is 18054. 17 Q. How long have you lived there? 18 A. Thirty-one years. 19 Q. Do you know Kevin and Annette 20 Smith? 21 A. Not personally. I know of 22 them. 23 Q. Do you know Emily Mayer? 24 A. Yes.</p>
Page 11	Page 13
<p>1 I ask you for information or facts that 2 you never knew, never had, never had any 3 knowledge of, please tell me that. That 4 would be a sufficient answer. 5 If I ask you for facts or 6 information that you may have known at 7 one time in the past but, because of the 8 passage of time or failure of memory or 9 anything, you just simply can't recall it 10 right now, tell me that and that will be 11 sufficient answer. 12 I don't want you to guess or 13 speculate or assume anything in response 14 to a question. Just because I ask you 15 about something doesn't mean you have to 16 know anything about it; I'm just trying 17 to find out if you do. 18 So, again, if you don't know 19 anything factually responsive to a 20 question I ask you, just simply tell me 21 and that will be a sufficient answer. 22 Are you feeling okay? Is 23 there any reason why you won't be able to 24 testify in this deposition and answer my</p>	<p>1 Q. How did you know her? 2 A. A student at Faith Christian 3 Academy. 4 Q. Did you know that Kevin Smith 5 and Annette Smith are her stepfather and 6 mother? 7 A. I was not aware that it was 8 her stepfather until, you know, things 9 started unfolding and questions coming, 10 but I didn't really know the parents. 11 Q. Back in 2009 or so did you 12 know that they lived up near Red Hill? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Red Hill is sort of near Green 15 Lane, correct? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. So, in 2009 you didn't know 18 where they lived? 19 A. Not that I recall. 20 Q. What's your husband's name? 21 A. Terry W. Alderfer, Jr. 22 Q. And where does he work? 23 A. He's self-employed. 24 Q. As what?</p>

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ORAL DEPOSITION OF CHERYL A. ALDERFER, 9/2/2015

Page 14	Page 16
<p>1 A. General contractor.</p> <p>2 Q. Has he ever been employed by</p> <p>3 FCA in any capacity?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. By whom are you currently</p> <p>6 employed?</p> <p>7 A. Faith Christian Academy.</p> <p>8 Q. In what capacity?</p> <p>9 A. I do the lunch cooking.</p> <p>10 Q. How long —</p> <p>11 A. And help with the senior</p> <p>12 advising.</p> <p>13 Q. What does that involve, senior</p> <p>14 advising?</p> <p>15 A. Working along with the main</p> <p>16 senior advisor and helping her out with</p> <p>17 fund-raising and things of that nature.</p> <p>18 Q. How long have you been employed</p> <p>19 at FCA?</p> <p>20 A. Three years.</p> <p>21 Q. Always in the same position?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Who has been your direct</p> <p>24 supervisor for the last three years? Who</p>	<p>1 Q. Were your parents members of</p> <p>2 the church, Faith Baptist Church?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Were you a member of the</p> <p>5 church since birth?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. Can you give me a brief</p> <p>8 description of your employment history</p> <p>9 starting in 1984 after you graduated from</p> <p>10 FCA? For whom did you work, the kind of</p> <p>11 position, for what period of time.</p> <p>12 A. For just FCA, or any</p> <p>13 employment?</p> <p>14 Q. Any employment going back to</p> <p>15 1984/1985.</p> <p>16 A. I worked for the Clemens food</p> <p>17 chain.</p> <p>18 Q. Doing what?</p> <p>19 A. Worked in the produce</p> <p>20 department.</p> <p>21 Q. For what period of time?</p> <p>22 A. Approximately two years.</p> <p>23 Q. And then what?</p> <p>24 A. That was it.</p>
Page 15	Page 17
<p>1 is your boss that you would take orders</p> <p>2 from?</p> <p>3 A. Ryan Clymer.</p> <p>4 Q. Were you employed in any</p> <p>5 position at FCA prior to the last three</p> <p>6 years?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 Q. Can you tell me a history of</p> <p>9 your educational background starting with</p> <p>10 high school?</p> <p>11 A. I finished high school, and</p> <p>12 that was...</p> <p>13 Q. What year?</p> <p>14 A. Twelfth grade -- graduated in</p> <p>15 1984.</p> <p>16 Q. What school?</p> <p>17 A. Faith Christian Academy.</p> <p>18 Q. And what about post high school</p> <p>19 education, formal education? Any?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you go to Faith Christian</p> <p>22 Academy from kindergarten or first grade</p> <p>23 through twelfth?</p> <p>24 A. Fifth through twelfth.</p>	<p>1 Q. Were those two years '84 and</p> <p>2 '85, or somewhere back around that time?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. And what did you do for</p> <p>5 employment, if anything, between 1985 and</p> <p>6 approximately 2012?</p> <p>7 A. Nothing.</p> <p>8 Q. You were a stay-at-home mom?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Did you do any type of</p> <p>11 volunteer work for the Faith Christian</p> <p>12 Academy back around the years 2008, 2009,</p> <p>13 2010?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. What did you do as volunteer</p> <p>16 work?</p> <p>17 A. Helped with the senior class,</p> <p>18 junior/senior class.</p> <p>19 Q. Doing what?</p> <p>20 A. Fund-raising, grading papers,</p> <p>21 entering data into the computer.</p> <p>22 Q. When did you start doing that?</p> <p>23 A. Approximately 2004.</p> <p>24 Q. Until when?</p>

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<p>1 A. Now.</p> <p>2 Q. You still do that?</p> <p>3 A. I still volunteer for that,</p> <p>4 yes.</p> <p>5 Q. Back in 2009 were you still a</p> <p>6 teacher's aide to a Ms. Tatarro? I'm not</p> <p>7 sure what the title might be.</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. What was that position called?</p> <p>10 A. Just a teacher's aide.</p> <p>11 Q. What type of functions would</p> <p>12 you perform for Ms. Tatarro?</p> <p>13 A. Grading, entering her data into</p> <p>14 the computer, arranging fund-raising,</p> <p>15 making phone calls for her.</p> <p>16 Q. Is that a five-day-a-week job?</p> <p>17 A. Not necessarily.</p> <p>18 Q. You were working in the</p> <p>19 cafeteria five days a week, correct --</p> <p>20 I'm sorry, that's starting in 2012 or so.</p> <p>21 A. Correct.</p> <p>22 Q. So, back in 2009 you weren't</p> <p>23 working in the cafeteria. You were just</p> <p>24 doing this volunteer work.</p>	<p>1 Q. So, back in 2009 she would</p> <p>2 have been approximately seventeen or</p> <p>3 sixteen?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you know Emily Mayer back</p> <p>6 in 2009?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Was Emily Mayer in Ms.</p> <p>9 Tatarro's homeroom back in 2009?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Were you a teacher's aide or</p> <p>12 assistant to anybody in 2009 other than</p> <p>13 Ms. Tatarro?</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. And again, at that time when</p> <p>16 you were working as a volunteer, who did</p> <p>17 you consider to be your supervisor?</p> <p>18 A. Ultimately Ryan Clymer.</p> <p>19 Q. Was your daughter Allison in</p> <p>20 Ms. Tatarro's homeroom back in 2009?</p> <p>21 A. No.</p> <p>22 Q. Whose homeroom was she in?</p> <p>23 A. She was home-schooled that</p> <p>24 year.</p>
Page 19	Page 21
<p>1 A. Correct.</p> <p>2 Q. And how many days a week would</p> <p>3 you generally do that kind of work?</p> <p>4 A. Approximately three; three to</p> <p>5 four.</p> <p>6 Q. Was she a homeroom teacher for</p> <p>7 a group of students, Ms. Tatarro?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. During 2009 was Emily Mayer one</p> <p>10 of her students in homeroom?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Do you have any children?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. How many?</p> <p>15 A. Five.</p> <p>16 Q. Do you have a daughter named</p> <p>17 Alli?</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. How do you spell her complete</p> <p>20 first name?</p> <p>21 A. A-l-l-i-s-o-n.</p> <p>22 Q. And back in -- let's work</p> <p>23 backwards: How old is she now?</p> <p>24 A. Twenty-three.</p>	<p>1 Q. By whom?</p> <p>2 A. Me.</p> <p>3 Q. When you went in to do this</p> <p>4 teacher-aide work in 2009 three or four</p> <p>5 days a week, how many hours a day would</p> <p>6 you spend there at school?</p> <p>7 A. Can you please repeat that?</p> <p>8 Q. Yes. When you were working as</p> <p>9 a teacher's aide to Ms. Tatarro in 2009</p> <p>10 three or four days a week, I believe you</p> <p>11 said, how many hours a day would you</p> <p>12 spend at the school?</p> <p>13 A. Approximately five.</p> <p>14 Q. Generally from what time to</p> <p>15 what time?</p> <p>16 A. Maybe eight to one.</p> <p>17 Q. So, would it be correct to say</p> <p>18 that you were generally there in the</p> <p>19 classroom of Ms. Tatarro when the students</p> <p>20 arrived for class at eight o'clock in the</p> <p>21 morning?</p> <p>22 A. Usually.</p> <p>23 Q. And you usually left around</p> <p>24 1:00.</p>

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<p>1 A. Approximately. It varied.</p> <p>2 Q. Did you know Emily Mayer in</p> <p>3 2009?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. How did you meet her?</p> <p>6 A. Through working at the school.</p> <p>7 Q. Was your daughter Allison a</p> <p>8 friend of hers?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Were they best friends, casual</p> <p>11 acquaintances? How would you characterize</p> <p>12 their friendship?</p> <p>13 A. Basically just at school.</p> <p>14 Q. Meaning they didn't socialize</p> <p>15 outside of school at all?</p> <p>16 A. Not really, no.</p> <p>17 Q. Back in 2009 were you</p> <p>18 home-schooling any of your other children?</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. Where do they go to school?</p> <p>21 A. Faith.</p> <p>22 MR. RUSSELL: Do you need to</p> <p>23 correct something on the home schooling?</p> <p>24 THE WITNESS: I do.</p>	<p>1 Q. So, she was in the same</p> <p>2 homeroom as Emily Mayer.</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you recall first meeting</p> <p>5 Emily Mayer in 2009, or was it sometime</p> <p>6 before that?</p> <p>7 A. I'm going to say -- I don't</p> <p>8 recall when the actual first time was.</p> <p>9 Q. Did she ever visit your home</p> <p>10 to meet with Alli, to do things with</p> <p>11 Alli?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. Was your daughter ever at Emily</p> <p>14 Mayer's home?</p> <p>15 A. No.</p> <p>16 Q. Back in 2009 was anybody living</p> <p>17 in your house who was not a member of</p> <p>18 your immediate family?</p> <p>19 A. I do exchange students, so I</p> <p>20 can't remember what years I had and did</p> <p>21 not have. It's possible that I had an</p> <p>22 exchange student.</p> <p>23 Q. Let me be more specific: Was</p> <p>24 there a student named Fateem Diabetes</p>
Page 23	Page 25
<p>1 MR. RUSSELL: Go ahead.</p> <p>2 THE WITNESS: Because I'm</p> <p>3 thinking my daughter graduated in 2010, so</p> <p>4 I have 2010 in my head. So, she was</p> <p>5 there --</p> <p>6 BY MR. GROTH:</p> <p>7 Q. Are you talking about Allison?</p> <p>8 A. -- Allison was there from 2009,</p> <p>9 September, and graduated in 2010. It was</p> <p>10 the year prior -- the school year prior</p> <p>11 to that that she --</p> <p>12 MR. RUSSELL: That would be</p> <p>13 2008/2009.</p> <p>14 THE WITNESS: Correct.</p> <p>15 MR. GROTH: Thank you for that</p> <p>16 correction.</p> <p>17 THE WITNESS: Yes.</p> <p>18 MR. GROTH: I was losing</p> <p>19 something there.</p> <p>20 THE WITNESS: I'm so sorry.</p> <p>21 BY MR. GROTH:</p> <p>22 Q. So, in 2009/2010 who was</p> <p>23 Allison's homeroom teacher?</p> <p>24 A. Mrs. Tatarro.</p>	<p>1 living at your house in 2009?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. Did she ever live in your</p> <p>4 house?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. Do you know who she is?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Was she an exchange student?</p> <p>9 A. No.</p> <p>10 Q. She was a local student?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Was she a friend's of Alli's?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. Did you know her back in 2009?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. How would you characterize</p> <p>17 Alli's friendship with Fateem?</p> <p>18 A. Close friends.</p> <p>19 Q. Was she ever at your house?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. On what type of basis, weekly,</p> <p>22 monthly, occasionally?</p> <p>23 A. Occasionally.</p> <p>24 Q. Did you know Eric Romig back</p>

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<p>1 in 2009?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. How did you know him?</p> <p>4 A. As the coach.</p> <p>5 Q. Of the girls basketball team?</p> <p>6 A. Correct.</p> <p>7 Q. Was your daughter a player?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Did she play any sports?</p> <p>10 A. She played soccer in maybe her</p> <p>11 sophomore year. That was all.</p> <p>12 Q. How did you know that Eric</p> <p>13 Romig was the coach of the girls</p> <p>14 basketball team in 2009?</p> <p>15 A. From working at the school,</p> <p>16 just knowing, seeing.</p> <p>17 Q. Did you ever go to any of the</p> <p>18 games?</p> <p>19 A. Occasionally.</p> <p>20 Q. Did you ever meet him</p> <p>21 personally?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. In what setting?</p> <p>24 A. Just in casual passing.</p>	<p>1 told me of the conversation.</p> <p>2 Q. The conversation she had with</p> <p>3 Emily Mayer?</p> <p>4 A. Correct.</p> <p>5 Q. Do you know when that occurred,</p> <p>6 approximately when? If I ask you for a</p> <p>7 date or something specific and you can't</p> <p>8 give me a specific response, but you can</p> <p>9 estimate or approximate, that's not the</p> <p>10 same as guessing.</p> <p>11 So, if you can give us any</p> <p>12 information, that might be helpful.</p> <p>13 A. All I can say is during</p> <p>14 basketball season is when -- the girls</p> <p>15 basketball season. So, in the fall, I</p> <p>16 believe that was.</p> <p>17 Q. The fall of 2009.</p> <p>18 A. Correct.</p> <p>19 Q. Do you know if it was in</p> <p>20 December of 2009?</p> <p>21 A. I wouldn't be able to recall</p> <p>22 that.</p> <p>23 Q. When your daughter came to you</p> <p>24 to talk about this conversation she had</p>
Page 27	Page 29
<p>1 Q. Did he know you by name?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. He had a daughter or step- or</p> <p>4 adopted daughter at the school at the</p> <p>5 time named Chelsea. Do you know her?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. How did you know her?</p> <p>8 A. Just as a student.</p> <p>9 Q. Was she in Ms. Tatarro's</p> <p>10 homeroom?</p> <p>11 A. Not at that time.</p> <p>12 Q. Was she a grade behind your</p> <p>13 daughter and Emily Mayer?</p> <p>14 A. I'm not one hundred percent</p> <p>15 sure.</p> <p>16 Q. Did there come a time back in</p> <p>17 2009 when Fatem Diabetes was at your</p> <p>18 house where you overheard a conversation</p> <p>19 between her and your daughter Allison</p> <p>20 relating to Eric Romig?</p> <p>21 A. Well, that is how my daughter</p> <p>22 -- well, they probably did talk about it,</p> <p>23 but I did not actually overhear that</p> <p>24 conversation. My daughter came to me and</p>	<p>1 had with Emily Mayer, was it only you and</p> <p>2 your daughter involved in the</p> <p>3 conversation?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. There was nobody else there:</p> <p>6 No other children, no other students, not</p> <p>7 your husband, nobody else?</p> <p>8 A. No, but I did talk to my</p> <p>9 husband about it.</p> <p>10 Q. Afterward.</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. All right. And do you</p> <p>13 remember the time of day that you had</p> <p>14 this conversation with your daughter?</p> <p>15 A. In the evening.</p> <p>16 Q. At home?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. I'd like you to tell me as</p> <p>19 much as you can recall about that</p> <p>20 conversation, including what your daughter</p> <p>21 said to you, what you said to your</p> <p>22 daughter, information that she gave you,</p> <p>23 information that you may have asked for,</p> <p>24 anything else that you can recall about</p>

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<p>1 the conversation. Just give it to me in a 2 narrative form. 3 A. She came to me and said that 4 Emily had approached her and was upset 5 because of text messages that she was 6 receiving from Eric Romig. 7 The only ones I can recall 8 that we discussed was that she felt -- 9 they had been together other texts, but 10 the only one we discussed was that Emily 11 had felt that he had gone over the line 12 with trying to have her spend some time 13 at his house on a weekend while his 14 stepdaughter was present. 15 Q. Meaning Chelsea. 16 A. Correct. 17 Q. Okay. 18 A. So, you know, I told her -- 19 she said that Emily didn't want her to 20 say anything to anybody, but at that 21 point I said that, you know, that's -- 22 that obviously cannot stay that way. I 23 told her that I would have to go to the 24 authority at school and report it.</p>	<p>1 types of texts that Emily told her she 2 was receiving from Eric Romig? 3 A. I cannot recall any specific 4 texts other than they were just making 5 her uncomfortable, but I do not recall 6 any specific texts other than the one 7 about the weekend. 8 Q. Do you recall Allison telling 9 you anything about her conversation with 10 Emily and the information that Emily gave 11 to her that we have not discussed 12 already? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Did your daughter discuss with 15 you anything in terms of the quantity or 16 volume, the number of texts that she was 17 receiving, that Emily was receiving, from 18 Eric Romig? 19 A. No. 20 Q. Did Allison tell you anything 21 that she had heard from Emily Mayer about 22 texts from Eric Romig to the effect of "I 23 love you. I want to marry you. I can 24 take care of you. I'll be good for you."</p>
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<p>1 Q. As I understand your testimony, 2 what your daughter told you was that 3 Emily was upset that Romig wanted her to 4 spend some time at Romig's home while 5 Chelsea was at the home? 6 A. Well, the weekend in question 7 Chelsea was home. Eric's wife and other 8 small children were going to be away on 9 this specific weekend. And I do not 10 recall the date of that, but Chelsea was 11 still at home. 12 But he had been texting her, 13 and I do not know the exact words, but 14 just in general that he wanted her to 15 spend the weekend. That's what she was 16 saying was in the text. 17 Q. Was it your impression from 18 your daughter's comments that Emily told 19 Allison that it was Eric Romig who was 20 inviting her to spend time at his house, 21 not Chelsea? 22 A. Correct. 23 Q. Did your daughter say anything, 24 even in general, about any of the other</p>	<p>1 anything of that nature whatsoever? 2 A. No, I don't recall that. 3 Q. Did you get the impression from 4 what your daughter told you that Mr. 5 Romig's invitation to Emily to spend the 6 weekend at his house was for a not 7 appropriate or an inappropriate purpose? 8 A. I would say I thought that it 9 was inappropriate. 10 Q. Thank you for that answer, but 11 let me ask it a different way: Did you 12 feel personally that Mr. Romig, if he did 13 in fact ask Emily to come over and stay 14 at his house with his step- or adopted 15 daughter for the weekend, that that was 16 inappropriate? When his wife and kids 17 were away, other kids, that that was 18 inappropriate? 19 A. Correct. 20 Q. I was trying to figure out 21 your motivation for going or having to 22 take her to Ryan Clymer to talk about 23 this. 24 So, that was your motivation:</p>

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<p>1 You thought there could be something 2 inappropriate going on. 3 A. Correct. 4 Q. You suspected there might be 5 something inappropriate going on. 6 A. Correct. 7 Q. You had started doing volunteer 8 work at the school, at FCA, in 2004, 9 approximately, you said? 10 A. Approximately. 11 Q. I believe Eric Romig testified 12 he started working there as basketball 13 coach in 2005. 14 Before receiving this 15 information from Allison that she had been 16 told by Emily Mayer, had you heard any 17 rumors or gossip or innuendo or comments 18 from anybody at the school -- students, 19 staff, administrators, anybody -- of any 20 suspected or rumored inappropriate conduct 21 by Mr. Romig with any other student? 22 A. No. 23 Q. So, you had never heard 24 anything about Mr. Romig's reputation or</p>	<p>1 Q. When did you hear that? 2 A. After it had come out with -- 3 probably after he resigned or was let go. 4 Q. We've already established on 5 the record that Mr. Romig left in January 6 of 2010, so it would have been somewhere 7 around that time? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. What did you hear, and who did 10 you hear it from? 11 A. I don't recall who I heard it 12 from. I don't know if it was kids just 13 in general that he had been texting her 14 as well, but I don't recall or remember 15 her at any of those texts. 16 Q. I'm sorry, I missed the last 17 part of that answer. That he had been 18 texting Lauren Fretz as well, but... 19 A. I didn't know of any of those 20 texts. I didn't... 21 Q. You didn't have any direct 22 knowledge of any of that. 23 A. Right. 24 Q. And don't recall if you heard</p>
Page 35	Page 37
<p>1 how he was with the girls on his team or 2 what type of person he was or what kind 3 of character he had? Nothing of that 4 nature whatsoever? 5 MR. SANTARONE: Objection. 6 Q. Is that correct? 7 A. No. 8 Q. You did not hear anything of 9 that nature. 10 A. No. 11 Q. Did you know Lauren Fretz? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. How did you know her? 14 A. Student at FCA. 15 Q. Was she in Ms. Tatarro's 16 homeroom at any time? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Did you at any time before or 19 after Lauren Fretz graduated from FCA hear 20 any rumors, gossip, innuendo, comments, 21 suspicions about some type of relationship 22 or inappropriate relationship with Lauren 23 Fretz and Eric Romig? 24 A. Yes.</p>	<p>1 that from students versus teachers versus 2 other coaches? 3 A. No. I would say it was -- 4 I'm guessing it would be -- 5 MR. RUSSELL: Nobody wants you 6 to guess. 7 THE WITNESS: Sorry. 8 BY MR. GROTH: 9 Q. What's your best recollection? 10 A. My daughter. 11 Q. If it is your daughter, did 12 she tell you or do you recall her 13 mentioning to you from whom she heard it? 14 A. No. 15 Q. When you heard this about Mr. 16 Romig allegedly texting Lauren Fretz, did 17 you hear anything about whether the texts 18 were inappropriate in some way as opposed 19 to just texting about basketball or some 20 coaching issue? 21 A. I don't recall. 22 Q. Did you hear that from any 23 other source, of any relationship, 24 inappropriate relationship, between Mr.</p>

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<p>1 Romig and Lauren Fretz?</p> <p>2 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>3 Q. Did Ms. Tatarro ever tell you</p> <p>4 anything about some suspected relationship</p> <p>5 between Mr. Romig and Lauren Fretz that</p> <p>6 was inappropriate?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 Q. Did she ever tell you that she</p> <p>9 had been --</p> <p>10 MR. RUSSELL: "She "being Ms.</p> <p>11 Tatarro.</p> <p>12 MR. GROTH: Yes. Sorry.</p> <p>13 BY MR. GROTH:</p> <p>14 Q. And you worked with her as an</p> <p>15 aide back in 2009, correct?</p> <p>16 A. Correct.</p> <p>17 Q. In fact, you started working</p> <p>18 for her even earlier than that as an</p> <p>19 aide?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. Back in 2004, or around there?</p> <p>22 A. Correct. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Did she ever tell that you she</p> <p>24 had been asked to go to Lauren Fretz</p>	<p>1 Q. Let's go back to the time</p> <p>2 after your daughter Allison told you what</p> <p>3 Emily Mayer had told her about Romig's</p> <p>4 text to Emily Mayer.</p> <p>5 Did you make some decision when</p> <p>6 you received that information that you</p> <p>7 were going to do something with that</p> <p>8 information?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. What did you decide to do?</p> <p>11 A. That I would go into school --</p> <p>12 Q. The next day?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. And do what?</p> <p>15 A. And talk to Ryan Clymer.</p> <p>16 Q. Why? Why did you make that</p> <p>17 decision?</p> <p>18 A. I thought it was an obligation</p> <p>19 to report something that seemed</p> <p>20 inappropriate.</p> <p>21 Q. While we're on that topic, had</p> <p>22 you ever received any information or</p> <p>23 training or instruction or explanation of</p> <p>24 Faith Christian Academy's sexual harassment</p>
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<p>1 personally and ask Lauren Fretz some</p> <p>2 questions regarding an alleged relationship</p> <p>3 between Eric Romig and Lauren Fretz?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you ever have occasion</p> <p>6 while you were working at FCA as a</p> <p>7 volunteer to see Lauren Fretz and Eric</p> <p>8 Romig together?</p> <p>9 A. No.</p> <p>10 Q. Other than your daughter</p> <p>11 Allison telling you about hearing</p> <p>12 something to the effect that Mr. Romig</p> <p>13 was texting Lauren Fretz as well, did you</p> <p>14 hear anything of that nature from anybody</p> <p>15 else?</p> <p>16 A. Not that I can recall.</p> <p>17 Q. Where does your daughter live,</p> <p>18 Allison?</p> <p>19 A. At 1015 Cedar Meadow Lane.</p> <p>20 Q. Your address?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Oh, I'm sorry. I thought it</p> <p>23 sounded familiar.</p> <p>24 A. Correct.</p>	<p>1 policy with regard to middle and high</p> <p>2 school students as of that time, in 2009?</p> <p>3 A. No.</p> <p>4 Q. Your daughter was a student at</p> <p>5 the school, and you had other children at</p> <p>6 the school in 2009?</p> <p>7 A. Correct.</p> <p>8 Q. Had you ever seen the</p> <p>9 student/parent handbook which contained all</p> <p>10 of the policies and procedures at the</p> <p>11 school?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. How did you see that handbook?</p> <p>14 How did it happen that you saw that</p> <p>15 handbook?</p> <p>16 A. It would come home with the</p> <p>17 students. They would go over it themselves</p> <p>18 at school, but then they would bring it</p> <p>19 home.</p> <p>20 Q. Did you ever go over it</p> <p>21 yourself?</p> <p>22 A. I can't say that I read it</p> <p>23 cover to cover, but I did glance.</p> <p>24 Q. Did you ever read the sexual</p>

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<p>1 harassment policy that existed back in</p> <p>2 2009?</p> <p>3 A. I can't recall.</p> <p>4 Q. Did you ever read the sexual</p> <p>5 harassment policy in any handbook that you</p> <p>6 might have received from your children</p> <p>7 between 2004 and 2009?</p> <p>8 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>9 Q. Did you personally as a</p> <p>10 volunteer receive any training or</p> <p>11 instruction or explanation from Faith</p> <p>12 Christian Academy on the school's sexual</p> <p>13 harassment policy?</p> <p>14 A. Can you repeat that?</p> <p>15 Q. Yes. In your capacity as a</p> <p>16 volunteer, as a teacher's aide and doing</p> <p>17 volunteer work and fund-raising work and</p> <p>18 whatever, did you ever receive any</p> <p>19 training or instruction or explanations</p> <p>20 from Faith Christian Academy regarding its</p> <p>21 sexual harassment policies?</p> <p>22 A. No.</p> <p>23 Q. When you decided after your</p> <p>24 discussion with Allison to go to Mr.</p>	<p>1 Other than at cafeteria time, did you</p> <p>2 ever see her later in the day at school</p> <p>3 other than homeroom time and cafeteria</p> <p>4 time?</p> <p>5 A. Passing in the hallway.</p> <p>6 Q. In the hallway.</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. So, do you believe it's likely</p> <p>9 that, if you saw her first thing that</p> <p>10 morning in the homeroom, that you had</p> <p>11 confronted her at that time as opposed to</p> <p>12 waiting until later in the day?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. And when you first spoke to</p> <p>15 Emily Mayer about it, where did you do</p> <p>16 it?</p> <p>17 A. Bathroom.</p> <p>18 Q. Ladies room.</p> <p>19 A. The ladies room.</p> <p>20 Q. Was there anybody else in the</p> <p>21 ladies room at the time?</p> <p>22 A. No.</p> <p>23 Q. Did you ask her to go to the</p> <p>24 ladies room with you to discuss it?</p>
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<p>1 Clymer with this information, did you also</p> <p>2 decide to confront Emily Mayer about the</p> <p>3 information that your daughter said that</p> <p>4 Emily Mayer gave to your daughter?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. Did you decide to actually do</p> <p>7 that before you went to Ryan Clymer?</p> <p>8 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>9 Q. I'm trying to get the</p> <p>10 chronology. Did you go to Ryan Clymer</p> <p>11 without Emily Mayer or did you --</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. -- did you go with Emily</p> <p>14 Mayer?</p> <p>15 A. I went with Emily Mayer.</p> <p>16 Q. And was it the first thing in</p> <p>17 the morning, during homeroom period?</p> <p>18 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>19 Q. Is that when you would have</p> <p>20 normally seen her at school?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Seen Emily Mayer at school.</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Would you have seen her later?</p>	<p>1 A. No, I came across her.</p> <p>2 Q. In the ladies room.</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. And you took that opportunity</p> <p>5 to raise this issue with her.</p> <p>6 A. Correct.</p> <p>7 Q. What did you say to her during</p> <p>8 that discussion and what did she say to</p> <p>9 you?</p> <p>10 A. I told her that I knew of the</p> <p>11 situation and that we had to go to Ryan</p> <p>12 Clymer.</p> <p>13 Q. Did you tell her what situation</p> <p>14 you were referring to?</p> <p>15 A. The texts that she had received</p> <p>16 from Eric Romig.</p> <p>17 Q. What did you tell Emily Mayer</p> <p>18 about the information that had been given</p> <p>19 to you by your daughter Allison?</p> <p>20 A. I told her that I had heard</p> <p>21 the information and that it needed to be</p> <p>22 reported.</p> <p>23 Q. Did you ask Emily Mayer for</p> <p>24 any additional information, for any other</p>

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<p>1 explanations or facts concerning this 2 texting issue with Mr. Romig? 3 A. I asked her if she had the 4 texts to be able to show them for proof, 5 and she said no. 6 Q. Did she tell you why she 7 didn't have them? 8 A. She said she erased them. 9 Q. Did she have her phone with 10 her in the bathroom? 11 A. I don't recall. 12 Q. Did you ask to see her phone? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Did she say she had any of the 15 messages at all, text messages, on her 16 phone, or had they all been deleted? 17 A. She told me they were all 18 deleted. 19 Q. What was her reaction when you 20 confronted her with the fact that 21 something she had confided to your 22 daughter had been told to you by her 23 daughter? What was her reaction? 24 A. She was nervous.</p>	<p>1 was? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. And who was that? 4 A. Chase. 5 Q. Brunner? 6 A. Brunner. 7 Q. Did she have to tell you that, 8 or you already knew that? 9 A. I knew that. 10 Q. So, when she referred to her 11 boyfriend, you knew who she was talking 12 about? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Did you ask her what texts 15 Chase Brunner had seen? 16 A. No. 17 Q. Did she tell you? Did she 18 volunteer that information? 19 A. Not that I recall, no. 20 Q. Did she tell you whether or 21 not anybody else other than Chase Brunner 22 and your daughter and maybe this Fateem 23 Diabetes had been told by her of the 24 texting by Romig to her?</p>
Page 47	Page 49
<p>1 Q. How did she appear to be -- 2 what was it about her that appeared to 3 look nervous? 4 A. She was crying slightly and 5 just shaky. 6 Q. Did she try to talk you out of 7 taking her to Ryan Clymer? 8 A. No. 9 Q. Did she say that she didn't 10 want to go see Ryan Clymer? 11 A. I don't recall that. 12 Q. Did you ask her whether or not 13 she had told anybody else the information 14 that she told your daughter? 15 A. I did not ask her that, no. 16 Q. Did she volunteer to you any 17 information that anybody else besides your 18 daughter knew anything about the texting 19 between Romig and her? 20 A. She said her boyfriend had seen 21 some texts. 22 Q. Some texts. 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. Did you know who her boyfriend</p>	<p>1 A. No. 2 Q. Was there any other 3 conversation between the two of you at 4 that time that we have not gone over, 5 between you and Emily Mayer? 6 A. No. 7 Q. Did you ask her whether or not 8 her parents knew? 9 A. I don't recall. 10 Q. Did she tell you whether or 11 not her parents knew? 12 A. I don't recall. 13 Q. Did you have a discussion with 14 Emily Mayer about the specific texts that 15 Allison told you about; that is, where 16 Mr. Romig invited Emily Mayer over to his 17 home to spend the weekend with him and 18 his daughter Chelsea? 19 A. Yes, that's the one I recall 20 her talking about. 21 Q. Did you ask her about that 22 specific text? 23 MR. RUSSELL: Ask Emily. 24 MR. GROTH: Ask Emily, yes.</p>

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<p>1 A. I don't recall who started the 2 conversation. 3 Q. But that specific text was 4 discussed between you and Emily. 5 A. Correct. 6 Q. Did Emily tell you that 7 receiving that text from Mr. Romig made 8 her uncomfortable? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Or upset. 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. Did she tell you why it made 13 her uncomfortable or upset that she was 14 invited to Mr. Romig's house to spend the 15 weekend with him and his adopted daughter, 16 Chelsea? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. What did she say? 19 A. She said that she had received 20 other texts, but this one crossed the 21 line with the knowledge that his wife was 22 going to be away with her two small 23 children and that he wanted her to come 24 over.</p>	<p>1 Q. That from that text, it was 2 her belief that he was trying to 3 establish a sexual relationship with her. 4 A. Correct. 5 Q. Did Emily Mayer tell you that 6 she had received texts from Mr. Romig to 7 the effect of that Eric Romig was in love 8 with her; that Eric Romig could give her 9 everything that she needed and had a lot 10 to offer her; that he wanted Emily Mayer 11 to pick him, Eric Romig, over Chase, 12 those types of things? 13 Did you have any discussion 14 about anything like that? 15 A. No. 16 Q. How long did the discussion in 17 the ladies room last, approximately? 18 A. Maybe ten, fifteen, twenty 19 minutes. 20 Q. It was a while. 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. Longer than a normal ladies 23 room visit. 24 A. Correct.</p>
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<p>1 Q. So, did Emily Mayer tell you 2 that she herself thought that that text 3 was inappropriate? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. And did you discuss with Emily 6 Mayer whether or not Emily thought that 7 Mr. Romig was trying to establish some 8 type of inappropriate sexual relationship 9 with her? 10 MR. RUSSELL: Objection. 11 Q. You can answer. 12 A. Can you repeat it again? Sorry. 13 Q. Yes. Did Emily Mayer tell you 14 that, because of that text or other texts 15 that she had received from Mr. Romig, 16 that she thought that Mr. Romig was 17 trying to establish some type of 18 inappropriate sexual relationship with her? 19 MR. RUSSELL: Same objection. 20 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Objection. 21 Q. You can answer. 22 A. I would say to the last and 23 only text that she talked to me about, 24 yes.</p>	<p>1 Q. Did anybody else come into the 2 ladies room during that time? 3 A. No. 4 Q. What did you do after having 5 that conversation with Emily Mayer? 6 A. We walked up to Ryan Clymer's 7 office. 8 Q. Did you go right from the 9 ladies room? 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. She didn't stop at her locker 12 or pick up anything or get her phone or 13 anything of that nature? 14 A. Not that I recall, no. 15 Q. Was Ryan Clymer in his office? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. Was there anybody else in the 18 office other than you, Emily Mayer and 19 Ryan Clymer? 20 A. No. 21 Q. Did you leave the door open? 22 A. No. 23 Q. I take it you sat down in 24 front of his desk?</p>

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<p>1 A. Correct.</p> <p>2 Q. And who said something first?</p> <p>3 A. I told Ryan that Emily had</p> <p>4 some information that I believed should be</p> <p>5 shared with him, and that's what started</p> <p>6 it.</p> <p>7 Q. And did you tell him why you</p> <p>8 believed that she should be sharing that</p> <p>9 information with him?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. What did you say?</p> <p>12 A. That there was inappropriate</p> <p>13 texting going on.</p> <p>14 Q. From Mr. Romig to Emily Mayer.</p> <p>15 A. Correct.</p> <p>16 Q. Did you tell Ryan Clymer when</p> <p>17 you first sat down that you thought the</p> <p>18 texting had a sexual component to it;</p> <p>19 that it appeared to you from what you</p> <p>20 heard from your daughter and discussed</p> <p>21 with Emily that there might be some</p> <p>22 sexually inappropriate texting going on?</p> <p>23 A. I let Emily answer the</p> <p>24 questions that Ryan had, so they were</p>	<p>1 you wanted to have this meeting with him</p> <p>2 and Emily Mayer, did it appear to you</p> <p>3 that Ryan Clymer had ever heard of this</p> <p>4 issue before from anybody else; that is,</p> <p>5 that somebody had told him before you</p> <p>6 even went there with Emily to tell him</p> <p>7 about it, that he had received some</p> <p>8 information about it before?</p> <p>9 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Objection.</p> <p>10 Q. You can answer.</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Did it appear from his reaction</p> <p>13 to what you told him and the subsequent</p> <p>14 conversation that he had that this is the</p> <p>15 first that he was hearing of it?</p> <p>16 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Objection.</p> <p>17 Q. You can answer.</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Did he make any comment during</p> <p>20 the meeting with you and Emily Mayer that</p> <p>21 Chase Brunner had approached him even</p> <p>22 before you approached him and said</p> <p>23 something about the texting issue?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p>
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<p>1 talking back and forth, discussing the</p> <p>2 texts.</p> <p>3 Q. We'll get to that in a second,</p> <p>4 but did you tell him that straight off at</p> <p>5 the beginning of the meeting, that you</p> <p>6 thought, based upon what you had been</p> <p>7 told by your daughter and heard from</p> <p>8 Emily Mayer herself, that you thought</p> <p>9 there might be something sexually</p> <p>10 inappropriate going on?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. What happened after you made</p> <p>13 that initial statement?</p> <p>14 A. Ryan asked her questions about</p> <p>15 the texts and asked her if he could see</p> <p>16 them or, you know, did she have the texts</p> <p>17 on her phone, and she said she had</p> <p>18 deleted them all.</p> <p>19 Q. Did he ask to see her phone?</p> <p>20 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>21 Q. Did he ask her to go get her</p> <p>22 phone?</p> <p>23 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>24 Q. When you told Ryan Clymer why</p>	<p>1 Q. So, what kind of questions did</p> <p>2 Ryan Clymer ask Emily Mayer and what were</p> <p>3 her responses to those questions, as best</p> <p>4 you can recall?</p> <p>5 A. I cannot recall anything</p> <p>6 specific other than the fact that he</p> <p>7 asked if she had the texts, would he be</p> <p>8 able to see them, and she said "No, I</p> <p>9 deleted them."</p> <p>10 Q. Did he ask her any questions</p> <p>11 about the content of the texts other --</p> <p>12 strike that.</p> <p>13 Did he ask her any questions</p> <p>14 about the content of the texts that she</p> <p>15 was uncomfortable with?</p> <p>16 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>17 Q. Was there a discussion about</p> <p>18 the specific texts that your daughter had</p> <p>19 told you about, about Mr. Romig inviting</p> <p>20 Emily Mayer to his house to spend the</p> <p>21 weekend with him and Chelsea?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. What was the discussion about</p> <p>24 that?</p>

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<p>1 A. Well, just that he had texted 2 her and approached her with that as far 3 as spending the weekend. 4 Q. And did Emily say that made 5 her uncomfortable? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. Did it also come out in the 8 meeting that when Romig sent her this 9 text, he also texted that his wife and 10 the other children would be out of town 11 for that weekend? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did Ryan Clymer make any 14 statement during the meeting that he felt 15 that that kind of text to Emily Mayer was 16 inappropriate? 17 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Objection. 18 A. I can't recall his comments. 19 Q. And believe me, I understand. 20 This goes back to 2009, and I can see 21 you're struggling with trying to remember 22 things. All I'm asking for is your 23 best recollection. 24 So, I understand that there may</p>	<p>1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Did she appear upset? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Did she appear uncomfortable? 5 A. Yes. 6 Q. Embarrassed? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. Was she crying? 9 A. Slightly. 10 Q. Do you remember anything about 11 any more information that -- do you 12 remember any additional information or 13 facts that Emily gave Ryan Clymer other 14 than those that we have already discussed? 15 A. No. 16 Q. Do you recall Ryan Clymer 17 asking Emily for anything other than the 18 phone? 19 A. No. 20 Q. Do you remember him asking 21 whether or not she had discussed this 22 issue with anybody other than you and 23 your daughter? 24 A. No.</p>
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<p>1 have been things discussed at that meeting 2 that you don't recall today. 3 A. Right. 4 Q. Even though it was not maybe 5 just one text that was discussed. There 6 may be other texts discussed, correct? 7 MR. SANTARONE: Objection. 8 Q. Is that correct? 9 A. There may be. 10 Q. You just don't recall anything 11 other than this one text. . . 12 A. Correct. 13 Q. . . being discussed. 14 A. Correct. 15 Q. And the situation with the 16 phone. 17 A. Correct. 18 Q. How long did the meeting last? 19 Approximately. 20 A. Twenty minutes. 21 Q. What was Emily Mayer's demeanor 22 during the meeting? 23 A. Shaken. 24 Q. Did she appear nervous?</p>	<p>1 Q. Do you recall Ryan Clymer 2 asking her whether or not she had shown 3 any of the texts to anybody before she 4 deleted them? 5 A. Yes. 6 Q. And do you know what the 7 response was? 8 A. That she had shown some to 9 Chase Brunner. 10 Q. Was it discussed whether or not 11 her parents had any knowledge of this 12 situation with Mr. Romig? 13 A. I don't recall. 14 Q. During the meeting, the 15 fifteen- or twenty-minute meeting with Mr. 16 Clymer, did any other female students' 17 names come up? 18 MR. RUSSELL: Objection. 19 MS. CONNOR: Objection. 20 MR. RUSSELL: She stated twenty 21 minutes. 22 BY MR. GROTH: 23 Q. Whatever amount of time it was, 24 did any other female student's name come</p>

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<p>1 up in the conversation in connection with</p> <p>2 Mr. Romig?</p> <p>3 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you remember if Lauren</p> <p>5 Pretz' name came up?</p> <p>6 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>7 Q. Do you recall if Kristen</p> <p>8 Kennedy's name came up?</p> <p>9 A. I don't recall that.</p> <p>10 Q. And by "came up," I mean</p> <p>11 either was mentioned by Emily Mayer or by</p> <p>12 Ryan Clymer.</p> <p>13 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. Did Ryan Clymer</p> <p>15 specifically ask if any of the texts from</p> <p>16 Mr. Romig were sexual in nature; that is,</p> <p>17 trying to entice or induce or coerce or</p> <p>18 convince Emily to engage in some type of</p> <p>19 sexual activity?</p> <p>20 A. I don't recall, no.</p> <p>21 Q. Did Emily volunteer that</p> <p>22 information, whether or not she was asked</p> <p>23 by Ryan Clymer?</p> <p>24 A. I don't remember that.</p>	<p>1 Q. Do you recall Ryan Clymer</p> <p>2 telling Emily to go home and tell her</p> <p>3 parents about the situation?</p> <p>4 A. I don't recall that.</p> <p>5 Q. Do you recall Ryan Clymer</p> <p>6 telling Emily Mayer that she should not</p> <p>7 participate from that point forward in any</p> <p>8 basketball activities with the girls</p> <p>9 basketball team that Eric Romig coached?</p> <p>10 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Objection.</p> <p>11 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>12 Q. Do you recall Mr. Clymer making</p> <p>13 any statements whatsoever about what he</p> <p>14 planned to do with the information that</p> <p>15 you and Emily Mayer had come forward with</p> <p>16 about Mr. Romig?</p> <p>17 A. I just remember him telling us</p> <p>18 that he was going to look into it and</p> <p>19 take it from there.</p> <p>20 Q. Did he ask you or Emily not to</p> <p>21 mention this information to anybody else</p> <p>22 at the school?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Did he tell you why he didn't</p>
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<p>1 Q. Did Ryan Clymer ask you to do</p> <p>2 anything at that meeting, anything more in</p> <p>3 connection with this texting issue between</p> <p>4 Mr. Romig and Ms. Mayer?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. Did he ask Emily to do</p> <p>7 anything?</p> <p>8 A. I don't recall what he asked.</p> <p>9 Q. I think you testified very at</p> <p>10 the very beginning that you came to the</p> <p>11 meeting with Emily and you left with</p> <p>12 Emily.</p> <p>13 A. Correct.</p> <p>14 Q. So, there was no meeting</p> <p>15 between Mr. Clymer and Emily that you</p> <p>16 know of that you weren't a part of?</p> <p>17 MR. RUSSELL: At that time,</p> <p>18 MR. GROTH: At that time,</p> <p>19 correct.</p> <p>20 A. Correct.</p> <p>21 Q. Did Ryan Clymer make any</p> <p>22 statement to Emily as to whether or not</p> <p>23 she should remain in school that day?</p> <p>24 A. I don't recall.</p>	<p>1 want you to talk about this with anybody</p> <p>2 else at school?</p> <p>3 A. No.</p> <p>4 Q. At that time did Faith</p> <p>5 Christian Academy have some type of</p> <p>6 guidance counselor or psychological</p> <p>7 counselor as part of its staff?</p> <p>8 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>9 Q. Did Mr. Clymer direct Emily to</p> <p>10 go to any other teacher, guidance</p> <p>11 counselor or anybody else at the school</p> <p>12 to give this information to or discuss</p> <p>13 this information with?</p> <p>14 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>15 Q. At some point you and Emily</p> <p>16 got up and left the office, correct?</p> <p>17 A. Correct.</p> <p>18 Q. What did you do?</p> <p>19 A. I went back to my job.</p> <p>20 Q. Did you go back to the</p> <p>21 homeroom, Ms. Tatarro's homeroom?</p> <p>22 A. Right.</p> <p>23 Q. Did Emily go with you to the</p> <p>24 homeroom?</p>

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<p>1 A. I don't remember.</p> <p>2 Q. Do you know if she went home</p> <p>3 right after the meeting?</p> <p>4 A. I don't remember.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you have any discussion</p> <p>6 with her -- in the ladies room or in the</p> <p>7 hallway or any other place in the school</p> <p>8 -- after leaving Mr. Clymer's office?</p> <p>9 A. No.</p> <p>10 Q. Did Mr. Clymer thank you for</p> <p>11 reporting this information to him?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Did Mr. Clymer say whether or</p> <p>14 not he was going to report this</p> <p>15 information to anybody else himself?</p> <p>16 A. He said he would take care of</p> <p>17 it.</p> <p>18 Q. I remember that part, but did</p> <p>19 he say he was going to tell anybody else;</p> <p>20 for example, Pastor Auckland or the board</p> <p>21 of directors or anybody else at the</p> <p>22 school?</p> <p>23 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>24 Q. I would assume that you didn't</p>	<p>1 daughter would have told you that?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. When you got home that day and</p> <p>4 saw your daughter, did you tell her that</p> <p>5 you had taken Emily Mayer in to talk to</p> <p>6 Ryan Clymer about Mr. Romig's texts?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. What did you tell her?</p> <p>9 A. I told her that we went in,</p> <p>10 gave Mr. Clymer the information, and that</p> <p>11 he was going to investigate.</p> <p>12 Q. When your daughter first told</p> <p>13 you about the texts that she had been</p> <p>14 told about by Emily Mayer, did your</p> <p>15 daughter believe Emily Mayer?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. And your daughter said that</p> <p>18 Emily Mayer never showed her any of the</p> <p>19 texts, correct?</p> <p>20 A. Correct.</p> <p>21 Q. After you sat with Ryan Clymer</p> <p>22 and Emily Mayer for twenty minutes to</p> <p>23 discuss the issue, did you believe Emily</p> <p>24 Mayer?</p>
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<p>1 write any notes or memos or anything</p> <p>2 written about this situation at the time</p> <p>3 it was happening back in 2009. Is that</p> <p>4 correct?</p> <p>5 A. Correct.</p> <p>6 Q. Did Mr. Clymer ask you to</p> <p>7 prepare anything written for him, a memo</p> <p>8 of what your daughter told you or any</p> <p>9 type of writing at all to document what</p> <p>10 you had been told, either by your</p> <p>11 daughter or by Emily Mayer?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. Did he ask to speak to your</p> <p>14 daughter?</p> <p>15 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>16 Q. Do you know if your daughter</p> <p>17 ever spoke to Ryan Clymer as part of his</p> <p>18 taking care of this situation?</p> <p>19 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Objection.</p> <p>20 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you think that if your</p> <p>22 daughter had been called in to talk to</p> <p>23 Mr. Clymer about what Emily Mayer told</p> <p>24 her, that she would have told you? Your</p>	<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. By "believe" I mean -- I know</p> <p>3 you don't have any direct knowledge about</p> <p>4 exactly what happened, but did you find</p> <p>5 her to be credible in the information</p> <p>6 that she was providing to Ryan Clymer?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Did Ryan Clymer during the</p> <p>9 meeting do anything or say anything to</p> <p>10 give you the impression that he did not</p> <p>11 believe her or that he did not find her</p> <p>12 credible?</p> <p>13 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Objection.</p> <p>14 A. Can you repeat that, please?</p> <p>15 Q. Yes. Did Ryan Clymer say or</p> <p>16 do anything during the meeting with you</p> <p>17 and Emily Mayer that led you to believe</p> <p>18 or gave you the impression that he did</p> <p>19 not believe Emily Mayer concerning what</p> <p>20 she was saying about these texts from Mr.</p> <p>21 Romig?</p> <p>22 A. No.</p> <p>23 Q. During that meeting or at the</p> <p>24 time of that meeting did you have any</p>

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Page 70	Page 72
<p>2 knowledge or information that Ryan Clymer</p> <p>3 had gone to FCA as a student with Eric</p> <p>4 Romig from grades one through twelve, that</p> <p>5 they were classmates at FCA from one</p> <p>6 through twelve?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 Q. Did you know that before you</p> <p>9 came here today and I just told you that?</p> <p>10 A. I knew that.</p> <p>11 Q. How did you know that?</p> <p>12 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>13 Q. Did you also tell your husband</p> <p>14 about what you had done with Emily in</p> <p>15 taking her to meet with Ryan Clymer?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Did he think that you had done</p> <p>18 the right thing?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. During the meeting with Ryan</p> <p>21 Clymer and Emily Mayer and yourself, was</p> <p>22 there any discussion by Ryan Clymer that</p> <p>23 he was considering or planning to report</p> <p>24 the information to any public authorities?</p> <p>And by "public authority" I</p>	<p>2 A. Not that I recall, no.</p> <p>3 Q. Was the next thing that you</p> <p>4 heard about the situation hearing from</p> <p>5 some source that Eric Romig was leaving</p> <p>6 FCA and was no longer going to coach the</p> <p>7 girls basketball team?</p> <p>8 A. Correct.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you recall who you heard</p> <p>10 that information from?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Do you recall if it was Mr.</p> <p>13 Clymer or Mr. Hoilenbach?</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. Do you recall Mr. Clymer ever</p> <p>16 giving you any information about Mr. Romig</p> <p>17 leaving school and leaving the position as</p> <p>18 coach of the girls basketball team after</p> <p>19 it happened?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. This lawsuit was filed in</p> <p>22 January of 2015. Did you have any</p> <p>23 discussion with Ryan Clymer about the</p> <p>24 Emily Mayer/Eric Romig texting situation</p> <p>between 2009 or 2010 and the time this</p>
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<p>1 mean the Department of Education, the</p> <p>2 Department of Public Welfare, DA's Office,</p> <p>3 police department, anything of that</p> <p>4 nature.</p> <p>5 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Objection.</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. Did you have any additional or</p> <p>8 further discussions with Emily about the</p> <p>9 texting issue with Mr. Romig after that</p> <p>10 meeting?</p> <p>11 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>12 Q. Do you remember her showing up</p> <p>13 for class the next day?</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. You don't have a memory either</p> <p>16 way, or you remember that she did not</p> <p>17 show up for class the next day?</p> <p>18 A. I don't remember either way.</p> <p>19 Q. Did Mr. Clymer ever call you</p> <p>20 back to talk to you or call you by phone</p> <p>21 to talk to you about any other</p> <p>22 information in connection with the</p> <p>23 investigation of Romig's texts to Emily</p> <p>24 Mayer?</p>	<p>2 lawsuit was filed in the beginning of</p> <p>3 2015?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you ever have any</p> <p>6 discussion during that period of time with</p> <p>7 Emily Mayer?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Or with her parents?</p> <p>10 A. I spoke with her mother.</p> <p>11 Q. When did you speak to her</p> <p>12 mother?</p> <p>13 A. After she had gone to Mr.</p> <p>14 Clymer.</p> <p>15 Q. You're talking about Annette</p> <p>16 Smith.</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. After you took her to see Mr.</p> <p>19 Clymer.</p> <p>20 A. Uh-huh.</p> <p>21 Q. After you took Emily to see</p> <p>22 Mr. Clymer.</p> <p>23 MR. RUSSELL: That's a yes?</p> <p>24 THE WITNESS: Yes.</p> <p>BY MR. GROTH:</p>

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<p>1 Q. How long after that meeting did 2 you talk to Annette Smith? 3 A. Approximately a day. 4 Q. Did she contact you or did you 5 contact her? 6 A. I don't recall. 7 Q. Was it by phone? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Was it at home or at school? 10 A. Home. 11 Q. In the evening? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. And what was the conversation, 14 at best you can recall, between you and 15 Annette Smith? 16 A. I remember us discussing the 17 text messages. She told me that there 18 were a lot of text messages, and I 19 suggested that she try to get them the 20 actual text messages so that she could 21 know exactly what was going on. That the only 22 thing I remember about the conversation. 23 Q. Let me ask you about the term 24 "a lot of text messages." Was there any</p>	<p>1 Q. Now that you think about it, 2 was that what prompted the call to begin 3 with? 4 A. (Pause) 5 Q. Did Annette Smith tell you that 6 that's what was prompting her call to 7 you, that she wanted to thank you for 8 taking her daughter in to see Ryan 9 Clymer? 10 A. I don't recall. 11 Q. Why did you recommend to 12 Annette Smith that something should be 13 done to find the content of the text 14 messages, to get the actual content of 15 the text messages? 16 A. As a parent, I would want to 17 know. 18 Q. Why? 19 A. To help either do something 20 about the person that was sending the 21 inappropriate texts and to maybe clear my 22 own daughter from any wrongdoing or get 23 to the bottom of it. 24 Q. Back at that time, if your</p>
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<p>1 number given to you about what "a lot" 2 consisted of? 3 A. I don't recall the number at 4 that time. 5 Q. Was it your impression from the 6 conversation with Annette Smith that she 7 had already obtained some information 8 about the quantity of text messages? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Did she say how she got that 11 information? 12 A. No. 13 Q. Did she say whether or not she 14 was simply told by her daughter that 15 there were hundreds or thousands of text 16 messages or they had gotten information 17 from some other source, like the phone 18 company? 19 A. I don't recall. 20 Q. Or a bill, a telephone bill? 21 A. I don't recall that. 22 Q. Did she thank you for taking 23 her daughter to see Ryan Clymer? 24 A. Yes.</p>	<p>1 daughter came to you and gave you the 2 same information that Emily Mayer gave you 3 -- that she was receiving these texts 4 from some male staff member at the school 5 and she had deleted all of them so that 6 you could not see them -- would you have 7 believed your daughter still? 8 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Objection. 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Back in 2009 or '10, did you 11 know whether or not that actual 12 text-message content could be retrieved 13 after it was deleted? 14 A. No. 15 Q. I mean technically, you know, 16 did you know that there was a way that 17 that could or could not be done? 18 A. No. 19 Q. Did you ever do anything to 20 find that out, whether or not you could 21 obtain the content of a deleted text 22 message? 23 A. No. 24 Q. Do you recall anything about</p>

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<p>1 the conversation that you had with Annette 2 Smith? 3 A. No. 4 Q. Did you ever meet Annette 5 Smith? 6 A. I don't recall. 7 Q. Did she call you again or try 8 to communicate with you again after that 9 telephone conversation? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Just one telephone conversation 12 after Mr. Romig had already left as coach 13 of the girls basketball team. 14 A. Right. 15 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Actually, I 16 thought the testimony was that -- 17 MR. RUSSELL: The next day. 18 MS. OLSZEWSKI: -- the mother 19 called after she went to Mr. Clymer. 20 MR. RUSSELL: The next day. 21 MS. OLSZEWSKI: The next day 22 -- 23 MS. OLSZEWSKI: Not after he 24 resigned.</p>	<p>1 correct? 2 A. Right. 3 Q. You started helping as a 4 volunteer in 2004, correct? 5 A. Correct. 6 Q. My question is, did you have 7 any connection with the school as a 8 volunteer or any other connection with the 9 school during the years 1996 through 1998? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Before the Emily Mayer 12 situation with the texting with Eric Romig 13 in 2009, had you ever heard of a 14 situation at school involving a teacher 15 named John Longaker who was arrested and 16 convicted of a number of crimes in 17 connection with sexual physical contact 18 with a student at FCA? 19 A. I heard about it. 20 Q. When did you first hear about 21 it? 22 A. I wouldn't recall the year that 23 that was. 24 Q. Was it at or around the time</p>
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<p>1 MR. RUSSELL: I agree. 2 MR. GROTH: Okay. 3 BY MR. GROTH: 4 Q. Is that the case? 5 A. Can you say that again? 6 Q. Yes; I may have misspoken. You 7 said the telephone conversation between 8 you and Annette Smith happened after Mr. 9 Romig resigned. 10 Was it your testimony it 11 happened the day after the meeting with 12 Clymer? 13 A. The day after the meeting, yes. 14 Q. After Mr. Romig resigned or 15 left as coach of the team, did you have 16 any further conversation with Annette 17 Smith? 18 A. No. 19 Q. Did you have any connection 20 with Faith Christian Academy during the 21 years 1996 through 1998? 22 A. (No response) 23 Q. Let me see if I can help you 24 a little bit. You graduated in 1984,</p>	<p>1 that it happened, back in '96, '97, '98? 2 A. Correct, when it happened. 3 Q. How did you become aware of 4 that situation? 5 A. People talking. 6 Q. People at FCA talking? 7 MR. RUSSELL: She wasn't at 8 FCA. 9 A. I wasn't at -- I would say 10 through church. 11 Q. You were a member of the 12 church. 13 A. Correct. 14 Q. So, somebody at Faith Baptist 15 Church talking about the situation, 16 correct? 17 A. Correct. 18 Q. And do you recall who that 19 person or who those people were? 20 A. No. 21 Q. Do you recall what you heard? 22 A. That he was somehow involved 23 with a student that used to attend Faith 24 Christian Academy.</p>

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<p>1 Q. "Somehow involved" meaning what?</p> <p>2 A. Inappropriately.</p> <p>3 Q. Sexually inappropriately?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. There were media reports about</p> <p>6 this. It was in the newspapers. I'm not</p> <p>7 sure if it was on television or whatever.</p> <p>8 But do you recall reading any</p> <p>9 of the media accounts of what Mr.</p> <p>10 Longaker was alleged to have done and</p> <p>11 what he eventually pleaded guilty to</p> <p>12 doing?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. Did you have children at the</p> <p>15 school at the time, in 1996 to '98?</p> <p>16 A. No.</p> <p>17 Q. At any time between the time</p> <p>18 Mr. Romig left as coach of the girls</p> <p>19 basketball team in 2010 and the time the</p> <p>20 complaint in this case was filed in</p> <p>21 January of 2015, did you hear from any</p> <p>22 source rumors about Eric Romig and any</p> <p>23 other females who attended FCA during the</p> <p>24 time that he was coaching there?</p>	<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. ... information about that,</p> <p>3 but you can't give me any specifics?</p> <p>4 A. No, just that it was possible</p> <p>5 that it was more than texting, but I</p> <p>6 don't recall exactly as to what.</p> <p>7 Q. And you don't recall who you</p> <p>8 heard that from.</p> <p>9 A. No.</p> <p>10 Q. And you heard that during a</p> <p>11 period of time when you were volunteering</p> <p>12 at the school after 2009.</p> <p>13 A. This would have been like way</p> <p>14 after, you know -- after he was gone.</p> <p>15 (Exhibit Alderfer-1 was marked</p> <p>16 for identification)</p> <p>17 BY MR. GROTH:</p> <p>18 Q. I'm going show you an exhibit</p> <p>19 which I'm marking as Alderfer-1. It's a</p> <p>20 letter to you from me dated April 10th,</p> <p>21 2015. I'll give you a chance to look at</p> <p>22 that. You don't have to read the whole</p> <p>23 thing. I assume you've read this before,</p> <p>24 correct?</p>
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<p>1 A. Can you repeat that again? I'm</p> <p>2 sorry.</p> <p>3 Q. Yes. Between the time that he</p> <p>4 stopped coaching, Eric Romig stopped</p> <p>5 coaching, in 2010 and the time when this</p> <p>6 complaint was filed in 2015, did you hear</p> <p>7 from any source information that Eric</p> <p>8 Romig was suspected of being involved in</p> <p>9 an inappropriate way with any other female</p> <p>10 students at the school while he was there</p> <p>11 at FCA?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. No?</p> <p>14 A. Other than the texting with</p> <p>15 Lauren?</p> <p>16 Q. Other than with texting with</p> <p>17 Lauren.</p> <p>18 A. Correct.</p> <p>19 Q. You never heard anything about</p> <p>20 some physical relationship between Lauren</p> <p>21 Fretz and Mr. Romig?</p> <p>22 A. Possibly.</p> <p>23 Q. That means you have some fuzzy</p> <p>24 recollection of hearing some. . .</p>	<p>1 A. Correct.</p> <p>2 Q. Did you receive this letter at</p> <p>3 some point in the mail shortly after</p> <p>4 April 10, 2015?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. What did you do in response to</p> <p>7 receiving that letter?</p> <p>8 A. I showed it to my husband and</p> <p>9 discussed it with him, and then decided</p> <p>10 to let the lawyers, school lawyers, handle</p> <p>11 it.</p> <p>12 Q. How did you find out who the</p> <p>13 school's lawyers were?</p> <p>14 A. Through Henry Thompson.</p> <p>15 Q. So, you contacted Henry</p> <p>16 Thompson after you received this letter.</p> <p>17 A. Correct.</p> <p>18 Q. And what discussion did you</p> <p>19 have with him?</p> <p>20 A. Just that they would go over</p> <p>21 the letter and contact the lawyer.</p> <p>22 Q. That they, meaning Henry</p> <p>23 Thompson, and somebody at the school would</p> <p>24 go over the letter and contact the</p>

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<p>1 lawyer?</p> <p>2 A. Correct.</p> <p>3 Q. Did Mr. Thompson give you any</p> <p>4 instruction not to respond to me directly</p> <p>5 about the letter?</p> <p>6 A. I'm sorry, can you say that</p> <p>7 again?</p> <p>8 Q. Yes. Did Mr. Thompson, when</p> <p>9 you told him about the letter -- did you</p> <p>10 do that by phone, by the way?</p> <p>11 A. Correct.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. You weren't standing</p> <p>13 with him showing him the letter. You</p> <p>14 called him and told him about it?</p> <p>15 A. Correct.</p> <p>16 Q. Did he tell you not to respond</p> <p>17 to me that you had received the letter?</p> <p>18 A. Correct. I responded -- yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Did he ask you to provide him</p> <p>20 with a copy of the letter?</p> <p>21 A. I don't recall that.</p> <p>22 Q. But in any event, he told you</p> <p>23 that he would bring it up to the</p> <p>24 attorneys that were representing Faith</p>	<p>1 tell truth and tell what I knew.</p> <p>2 Q. He said that or you said that?</p> <p>3 A. He said that.</p> <p>4 Q. Did you specifically discuss</p> <p>5 with him the Emily Mayer situation with</p> <p>6 Mr. Romig that had occurred back in 2009?</p> <p>7 A. I don't recall the</p> <p>8 conversation.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you recall Mr. Thompson</p> <p>10 telling you that he had seen the</p> <p>11 complaint in the case, the complaint that</p> <p>12 my client filed against FCA and Mr.</p> <p>13 Clymer and Mr. Hollenbach and the others,</p> <p>14 and that there were allegations about the</p> <p>15 Emily Mayer texting issue with Mr. Romig</p> <p>16 back in 2009? Did he tell you that?</p> <p>17 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>18 Q. Did you ever hear any</p> <p>19 information about Emily Mayer back in 2008</p> <p>20 or 2009 attending some type of party</p> <p>21 after a sports banquet where there was</p> <p>22 some kind of drinking or other activity</p> <p>23 going on between a number of FCA students</p> <p>24 after the banquet?</p>
Page 87	Page 89
<p>1 Christian Academy. Is that correct?</p> <p>2 A. Correct.</p> <p>3 Q. It is correct, is it not, that</p> <p>4 you and I have never spoken about this</p> <p>5 case before today?</p> <p>6 A. Correct.</p> <p>7 Q. So, you did not respond to me</p> <p>8 at any time in connection with the</p> <p>9 letter.</p> <p>10 A. Correct.</p> <p>11 Q. You understood in this letter</p> <p>12 that I was representing somebody who was</p> <p>13 suing FCA and Ryan Clymer and Mr.</p> <p>14 Hollenbach, correct?</p> <p>15 A. Correct.</p> <p>16 Q. When you told Mr. Thompson</p> <p>17 about the letter, did you have any</p> <p>18 discussion with him about the Emily Mayer</p> <p>19 and Eric Romig situation back in 2009?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. Just tell me about that</p> <p>22 discussion.</p> <p>23 A. Just that you would probably</p> <p>24 want to know what I knew and just to</p>	<p>1 A. No, I don't recall that.</p> <p>2 Q. After this lawsuit was filed</p> <p>3 did you ever prepare any written</p> <p>4 materials, any type of written document,</p> <p>5 concerning your recollections of what went</p> <p>6 on with you and Emily Mayer and Ryan</p> <p>7 Clymer back in 2009 when the texting</p> <p>8 issue with Mr. Romig arose?</p> <p>9 A. No.</p> <p>10 MR. GROTH: No further</p> <p>11 questions.</p> <p>12 (A brief recess was taken)</p> <p>13 MR. SANTARONE: Just a couple</p> <p>14 a quick questions.</p> <p>15 (EXAMINATION)</p> <p>16 BY MR. SANTARONE:</p> <p>17 Q. When you first approached</p> <p>18 Emily, did you tell her that your</p> <p>19 daughter had told you this or that you</p> <p>20 had overheard something?</p> <p>21 A. I told her I had overheard</p> <p>22 something.</p> <p>23 Q. And what is the reason you</p> <p>24 told her that?</p>


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<p>1 A. Because I didn't want her to 2 know my daughter, you know . . . 3 Q. Had confided in you. 4 A. Had confided in me, correct. 5 Q. When you first spoke with Emily 6 in the ladies room before you went to see 7 Mr. Clymer, did you ask her whether or 8 not there had been physical contact 9 between her and Mr. Romig? 10 A. Could you repeat that? 11 Q. Yes. Did you ask her if Mr. 12 Romig had ever touched her? 13 A. I would say I asked if it ever 14 got physical. 15 Q. What did she say? 16 A. No. 17 Q. And did Ryan Clymer ask her a 18 similar type of question: Did anything 19 ever physically -- did anything physical 20 happen? Do you remember him asking that 21 kind of question? 22 A. I don't remember. 23 Q. But you do recall that you 24 asked her that.</p>	<p>1 A. I would say at the time they 2 didn't seem like they were going to. 3 MR. SANTARONE: That's all I 4 have. Thank you. 5 MR. GROTH: I have a follow-up 6 question. 7 (EXAMINATION) 8 BY MR. GROTH: 9 Q. During the meeting with Mr. 10 Clymer, did he tell you that he would do 11 what he was able to do or find somebody 12 who was able to try to get the content 13 of the text messages that Emily had told 14 him about? 15 A. I don't recall that. 16 MR. GROTH: No further 17 questions. 18 (The deposition was concluded 19 at 1:15 p.m.) 20 21 22 23 24</p>
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<p>1 A. Correct. 2 Q. When you spoke with Annette 3 Smith, did you -- was it you who said to 4 her "you should try to get the content of 5 the text messages"? You told her that? 6 A. In the conversation I know I 7 said that to her. 8 Q. Did you ever tell her that if 9 you think there's something there or you 10 think the content is important, that you 11 should go to the police, that you told 12 her that she should go to the police? 13 MR. GROTH: Object to the 14 form. 15 MR. RUSSELL: You can answer. 16 A. Yes, I remember using the term, 17 you know, can you go to the police and 18 get this or check. 19 Q. Did Annette Smith seem like 20 they were going to try to get the 21 content? 22 MR. GROTH: Object to the 23 form. 24 MR. RUSSELL: You can answer.</p>	

CERTIFICATION

I heraby certify that the testimony and the proceedings in the foregoing matter are contained fully and accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me and that the copy is a true and correct transcript of the same.


LANCE A. BRUSILON
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